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O R I E N S

The Surveye of the Mannor house of Ketteringe
wth the Demanes belonging to same made in
Anno Dni: 1587:

The Site of the house wth orchard, garden and close: 4^{ac} — 2^r — 30^p
Thre feildes of pasture called Hall feildes: 134^{ac} — 2^r — 23^p
The Meadowes called flagey holme Ram holme } 27^{ac} — 1^r — 3^p
Broughton holme and Cranfley holme: }
The Parke adioyning to Hall feilde: 22^{ac} — 3^r — 14^p
Hall meadowe beinge on the east side Hall feild: 33^{ac} — 1^r — 6^p
Hall peece Midle furlong and Nether furlong: 35^{ac} — 3^r — 15^p
Lymekill peece on the East side Hall peece: 118^{ac} — 3^r — 23^p
Dunmowes peece wth the leyes: 115^{ac} — 2^r — 2^p
St Anns peece and knapphill peece: 117^{ac} — 3^r — 27^p
The Lodge yarde and the Lynches or warren: 96^{ac} — 2^r — 7^p
Sum 619^{ac} — 2^r — 10^p of p^{ar}ches
Rente 222^l

East feilde.

Depes glade

Limekill peece

South feilde.

Hall Peece

Midle furlonge

Nether fur.

Hall meadowe.

hall
Midle feild.

Nether Hall feilde.

Broughton
feilde.

Hall
feilde

Cranfley booke

Cranfley

O C C I D E N S

North feilde.

Sand pit fur?

Dunmowes peece

Tiles furlonge

Hardest stile

St Anns peece
by Knapphill fur?

Knapphill fur?

Knapphill: Baxter

Greate Bromehill

Little Bromehill

Pinder

The Lynches

Rothwell
feilde.

A Scale of perches at 16 foot

Radius Ithwell Anno Dni 1587.

M E R I D I E S

S E P T E M T R I O

SUPPLEMENT

TO THE HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF

KETTERING,

TOGETHER WITH A FURTHER ACCOUNT OF ITS

WORTHIES,

BY

FREDK. WM. BULL.

ILLUSTRATED.

KETTERING:
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED,
1908.

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PREFACE.

IT is seventeen years since the manuscript of the History, to which the following pages are a Supplement, was placed in the hands of the printer.

Much has come to light since then relating to the ancient history of Kettering, while all the time the Town has too itself been making history.

Under these circumstances an attempt to further elucidate and amplify the narrative of the events of the past and to record those of recent times will it is hoped not be deemed inopportune.

Again I have to thank many ready helpers. Especially must I thank his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.G., and Messrs. Nicholl Manisty & Co., for access to valuable manuscripts, and for copies of unique maps; the Rev. R. M. Sarjeantson, M.A., F.S.A., for much information as to the Rectors; Mr. Charles Wise, for numerous items of information in his "Glimpses of Kettering"; the Rev. Canon Smythe, M.A., and his Churchwardens for ready access to the Parish Registers and Records; and Mr. R. J. Williams for his many excellent illustrations.

FREDK. WM. BULL.

Risdene, Kettering,
18th September, 1908.



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ERRATA AND ADDENDA TO HISTORY.

- p. 21—Kettering Heath in the thirty-first line is "the Lynkes."
Vide "Northampton Borough Records."
- p. 32—In the recently discovered Rothwell Register there is nothing to indicate that Rothwell suffered from the Great Plague.
- p. 37—Insert at end of twelfth line the words "the news of."
- p. 43—Alter 200 to 2,000 in twentieth line.
- p. 97—The name of Viscountess Cullen was Elizabeth. She died at Kettering 30th November, 1713, but was buried at Rushton 10th December, 1713. Bridges quotes the monumental inscription to this effect. Vide also "Complete Peerage," by Cockayne Clarenceux, King of Arms, Vol. ii, p. 436, where the date of death is given as 20th November.
- p. 133—In last line of paragraph relating to Dash's Charity, instead of the words "the Sunday School," read "the Sunday Schools of the Established Church."
-

THE LIKE TO THE SUPPLEMENT.

- p. 20—The Rev. P. M. Smythe was appointed Honorary Canon of Peterborough, in May, 1908.
- p. 38—Line four, for 1815 read 1814.

SUPPLEMENT TO HISTORY OF KETTERING.

PART I.

THE TOWN AND MANOR.

AS the years go on evidence is accumulating which tends to prove that the antiquity of Kettering as a place of residence is greater than has till recently been supposed.

Finds of the Bronze Age were made years ago at Pytchley and Desborough; more recently an urn was discovered in Rothwell Parish; more recently still four urns were found near Kettering Furnaces, and small fragments of an urn of this period were some five years since picked up by Mr. C. E. Wright in the North of Kettering during drainage excavations.

It is now too conclusively proved that the Romans had a settlement here.

Bridges says: "In Stony-lands between Weekley Woods and Kettering, have been found in digging stones several urns, coins, and bones. In this place are the vestigia of a dyke, carried on as far as the Duke of Montagu's park in Weekley."

The dyke here referred to is considered by Mr. Charles Wise, whose view is shared by Professor Boyd Dawkins, to be of Roman origin,¹ and at any rate in a field called

Blackmiles, close to the spot at which the Kettering boundary touches the dyke, Roman coins ranging from Vespasian to Valentinian have been found in very large numbers. In either Blackmiles, or a field called Houselade adjoining, some years since a kind of oven, which may have been the heating furnace of a Roman villa, and stones believed to be the foundations of a building were discovered.

As a result of drainage operations undertaken during 1902 and 1903, at the Northern end of Bath Road and on the Co-operative Society's Building Estate, to the north of Clover Hill, large quantities of fragments of pottery, undoubtedly Roman, the remains of some shoes, bones, a bronze spoon, bronze fragments, and above forty coins, the dates of which cover the first four centuries after Christ, have been discovered.

The bulk of the finds were made in the lower and eastern part of the Society's estate and the Northern part of Bath Road which leads into that estate. The estate comprises most, if not all, of the lands called—on an old map in the possession of the Duke of Buccleuch—"Stony-lands," "Stony-lands Furlong," and "Beckhead Furlong." The last-named which is the most easterly, adjoins the fields called "Blackmiles" and "Houselade" already referred to.

The pottery found, though of most varied design and quality, was very fragmentary, and only a very few pieces were consequently of any interest.

It was hoped that the excavation of two wells which were found at the beginning of 1904 at the eastern ends of Blandford and Neale Avenues, might have yielded something satisfactory, but only a few coins, a little pottery, the remains of some leather shoes or sandals, and some animal bones came to light.

The feature of the excavation was the discovery of numerous pits or holes of various depths and shapes, filled with black earth, and containing in nearly every case fragments of pottery and animal bones. These pits were probably, says Mr. Haverfield, simply rubbish or ordure ones the black mould indicating the latter.

It is possible, says the same authority, that taken as a whole, these discoveries show traces of a Romano-British hamlet, with huts of wood or cobb, which possibly may have been an appendage to a villa at a little distance.

The find on the building of the Temperance Hall in 1864¹ was not supplemented when in 1904 building operations were in progress to the west of that building.

Nevertheless the statement that the Romans undoubtedly had at Kettering a place of habitation of some standing and importance seems to be justified.

Leaving the Romano-British days it is now, as a result of excavations undertaken in the spring of 1903, evident that Kettering was a place of habitation also in Anglian times.

Some years ago, when a Mr. Dawes built a house near the corner of the Stamford and Edinburgh Roads, Kettering, several cinerary urns were discovered, but no exhaustive search was made, and the find was not generally known, nor was any special record of it kept.

About the beginning of 1903, however, while digging the foundations of two houses for Mr. C. Pratt on a plot of land on the Stamford Road to the west of Mr. Dawes' premises, a number of urns were found. The builder's foreman became interested, and secured a fair specimen, which he showed to the writer, who in turn saw Mr. T. J. George, of Northampton, with a view to its identification. Mr. George at once pronounced the urn to be one from an Anglican Cemetery, and bearing in mind the Dawes' find, of which he was aware, arranged, on behalf of the Northamptonshire Exploration Society, to excavate the unbuilt-on portion of Mr. Pratt's land.

The first day's digging took place on the 3rd March, 1903, and about eight urns in a very broken and imperfect state were found, together with two bronze tweezers, remains of beads and small fragments of bronze.

It was then apparent that the land of Mr. Alfred Haldinstein, between the properties of Messrs. Pratt and Dawes, would be sure to repay exploration, and on the 24th March, with the owner's permission, the search was resumed. As a result, some eighteen more urns were unearthed, six or seven of them within an area of about 9ft. Two of the urns were almost perfect, and three or four more were in fair condition, but the rest were in fragments. Further remains of beads were discovered in the urns among the

¹ History. p. 2.

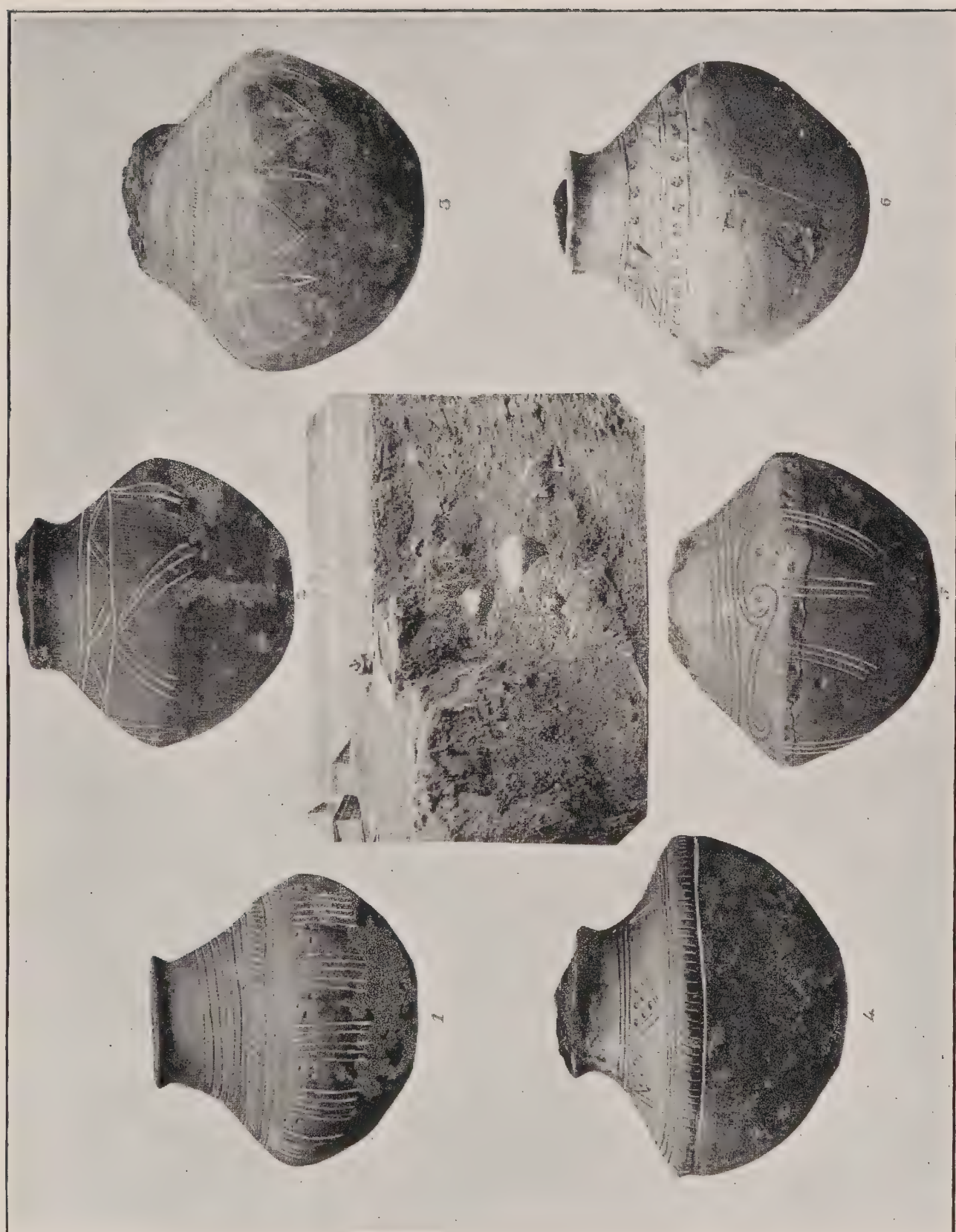
calcined bones, which practically all the urns contained, another pair of bronze tweezers and a small knife.

The search was resumed on the 31st March on the same land, and the best urn find of all was made, for of the sixteen dug up five or six were in very good condition indeed, and about four more fairly good. Another pair of bronze tweezers in perfect condition was found loose, and in the urns were the remains of a bone comb, a few beads, and twenty-seven bone discs, about five-eighths of an inch in diameter. Near the eastern boundary of the land, too, and with its feet towards the west, the remains of a skeleton were found about 18in. below the surface.

On the 28th April the exploration of the land was completed. Some twenty-one more urns, and the remains of four more skeletons were discovered. Of the urns, five were in good condition, six fairly whole but cracked, and the rest in fragments. A further pair of tweezers, a spindle whorl of bone, a few more beads, and tiny fragments of a comb were amongst the contents of the urns. The remains of the skeletons, encased in large stones (some of which apparently bore the marks of fire), were lying with their feet to the south-east, differing in this important respect from the skeleton discovered on 31st March. In one case the head was on the right side, and in the three others it is believed on the left. The remains were about three feet from the surface, and in one instance an urn was practically touching the skeleton, while two others were in close proximity. No weapons of any kind were found.

The marking, ornamentation, and size of the urns found varied very much. They were of no set pattern, and ranged from quite plain urns, of which three or four were found, to urns which bore quite elaborate designs composed of stars, diamonds, dots, circles, and lines in all directions. Two urns had hornlike projections, and many had bulging designs and protuberant bosses. The lower parts of the urns were without exception, it is believed, unmarked, and in only two or three cases were there properly formed bases. The size varied from 4in. in height, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter, to 10in. in height and about 11in. in diameter. The average depth at which they were found was only about 18in.

A skeleton and probably 15 urns were found on Mr. Pratt's land before any particular notice was taken. Altogether,



ANGLO SAXON CINERARY URNS.

therefore, some 78 urns, besides the remains of six skeletons, were discovered.

The cemetery does not appear to have extended beyond the western boundary of Mr. Pratt's land and the eastern side of Mr. Dawes' property, while the northern boundary is something like 110ft. from the Stamford Road. One urn was found close to the road, and in the spring of 1904 a burnt bronze brooch, of late pattern, with the remains of an urn, was discovered in the centre of the highway, so that it is impossible to say how far the cemetery extended southwardly. Taking the road as the boundary, however, the present ascertained width from west to east is 112ft., and from north to south 110ft.

It may be worth noting that the cemetery is about 1300 yards south-east of the recently-discovered Romano-British settlement, and lies about 400 yards to the east of the Beck Gutter.

The fact of the cemetery being a mixed one seems to have aroused much interest.

Mr. Reginald A. Smith states that before the relative dates of cremation and inhumation in any particular district can be pronounced on, a good deal more evidence is necessary. It seems, however, agreed that, where both occur, the rule is that cremation is the earlier. Mr. Smith makes the interesting suggestion that the marks of fire on the stones where the body was unburnt may perhaps be due to a superstitious survival of the rites of cremation, which had degenerated into a perfunctory "passing through the fire" without actually burning the body. As to the date of the unburnt burials, it can, adds Mr. Smith, only be imagined that the Christian Missionaries first succeeded in making the people give up cremation, and only subsequently induced them to lay the body with the head to the west. Pagan burials elsewhere in England are very often made with the head to the south-west, while in some cemeteries both directions have been observed.

Some excitement was caused by the discovery on 6th September, 1905, of a skeleton in the Rectorial Allotment Field (No. 297 Ordnance Map, 1900 ed.) near Avondale Road. It was found by George Willis, fifteen inches from the surface, beneath some large pieces of stone. The grave was stone-lined, 5 feet 3 inches in length, 15 inches in depth, and 18



granted and by his Charter, which he produced, confirmed to the Abbot of Peterborough and the monks serving God there the aforesaid market to hold to him and his successors in perpetuity. And by that warrant, he claimed the aforesaid market. And as to the free warren there, he says that he and all his predecessors from time whereof memory does not exist were seized of the same, by that warranty he claims the aforesaid warren. . . . On that day came the aforesaid Abbot and likewise the jury, who say upon oath that the aforesaid Abbott and his predecessors were seized of all the aforesaid [premises]. . . . And the free warren in his Manor of Kettering."

In 1587 a map of Kettering was drawn for Sir Christopher Hatton, and by the kind permission of the Earl of Winchilsea is now reproduced.

A careful study of it will give the reader a very good idea of the Kettering of those days—a better idea indeed, than any word picture could.

Another map of later date, 1728, is in its way equally interesting, clearly showing as it does the old open fields, the old locality names, and the growth of the town. It is reproduced by the permission of His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch in whose possession the original is.

Some very valuable glimpses of the Town of Kettering, its inhabitants, its life, and its customs during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries are afforded by the "Glimpses of Kettering" by Mr. Charles Wise, which appeared in the "Kettering Guardian" in 1901. The articles are mostly based on the Court Rolls of the Manor proper and of the Rectory Manor, and so valuable are they that it is much to be regretted that they have not been reprinted in a separate and permanent form.

Passing on there is not much to add to this section till one comes to quite recent times, the year 1891 indeed when the History was published.

The town has since that year grown rapidly, and many events of more or less importance have taken place.

The Parish Church, after its thorough restoration, was re-opened on 21st September, 1892, St. Matthew's Day, by the Bishop of Peterborough (Dr. Creighton.) The Bishop chose for his text Matt. ix. 9, and referring to the Rev. Canon Lindsay, who died on 28th April, 1892, stated that although the wish of

his heart to see the completion of the Restoration, for which he had laboured so patiently and so persistently, was denied him, yet the memory of his devotion to the work was full in the heart of everyone of them that day.

On the 13th August, 1892, Commissioners were appointed by the Bishop to report as to the particulars of the income of the Rectory and as to the best means of making spiritual provision for the inhabitants of the parish. The Commissioners were Archdeacon Lightfoot, Rev. B. R. Wilson, G. L. Watson, Esq., C. W. Stringer, Esq., and W. R. Thorpe, Esq., and as a result of their first meeting held on 28th October following, expressions of opinion from parishioners were invited "as to the best means of making spiritual provision for the inhabitants."

There were at one time suggestions in the air as to subdivision of the parish, but they have never solidified. A copy of the Commission and of an article by Rev. B. R. Wilson on the whole question is to be found in the Kettering Parish Magazine for November, 1892.

On the 2nd and 3rd July in the same year the Centenary Celebrations of the Baptist Missionary Society were held here. The Chapels were utilised, but the principal meetings took place in a large marquee erected in the Paddock in front of the Mission House. The gatherings were very largely attended and eminently successful.

On the 11th January, 1893, the Roman Catholic Chapel off the London Road was opened by the Bishop of Northampton.

At the commencement of this year the question of the desirability of obtaining a Charter of Incorporation was discussed, and eventually the matter was brought before a Town's Meeting at the Victoria Hall on 9th February, when a Committee was appointed to enquire into the advantages and disadvantages of incorporation. The report so prepared was presented at another meeting held on 9th March, which was only thinly attended, and eventually it was decided by 51 votes to 37 to adjourn the consideration of the question sine die. One of the main arguments which seems to have led to this result was that legislation was likely which would remove the necessity for a property qualification of a member of the Local Board, it being on this point that the matter first arose.

Legislation did take place, but the question was again revived in 1901 and a meeting held at the Corn Exchange on 14th October, 1901, when the proposal that a petition praying

for the grant of a Charter of Incorporation was, after a prolonged and interesting discussion, once more defeated.

At a meeting held at the Victoria Hall on 21st November, 1891, the erection of a General Hospital for Kettering and District was first decided upon, but it was until 30th October, 1897, that the opening ceremony took place. It was performed by Viscount Althorp (then the Right Hon. C. R. Spencer) in the absence of Earl Spencer. In the meantime liberal subscriptions had come in from the town and district, and the funds had been largely augmented by a five days' bazaar held 20th to 24th October, 1896. The surplus funds of the old Kettering Dispensary, which was closed, were also in the autumn of 1898 placed at the disposal of the Governors. The total cost of the Hospital, including additions since made, has been £17,500, and of this only £1,700 is still owing. The number of patients yearly is 563, and the income £2,700. It has beds for 58 patients, and of its usefulness it is superfluous to write.

On 3rd October, 1899, great interest was taken in a Complimentary Banquet which was given by the Town at the Royal Hotel, to Mr. Alfred East, to celebrate his election to the Associateship of the Royal Academy of Arts. It was a thoroughly representative gathering, and included Messrs. J. T. Nettleship and T. C. Gotch.

The Manor, owing to the death of George Lewis Watson, Esq., on the 31st December, 1899, is now vested as to six-tenths thereof in his successor the Rev. Wentworth Watson, M.A., of Rockingham Castle, and as to four-tenths thereof in the present Duke of Buccleuch.

With regard to national history, the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen was commemorated on 22nd June, 1897, one of the events being the lighting of beacons on the top of the Church Tower and firing rockets from that spot.

On 28th January, 1901, King Edward VII. was proclaimed on the Market Hill, at four o'clock in the afternoon, by Mr. Henry Barlow, as Chairman of the Urban Council. Just about 3.15 a perfect snow blizzard burst over the town; but the snow ceased and the sun shone during the ceremony. The Volunteers, Hussars, and Firemen were present; and on the platform, erected in front of the Corn Exchange, Mr. Barlow was supported by the members of the various public bodies.

The Saturday following was observed here as elsewhere as a day of mourning for Queen Victoria and Memorial Services held.

The delayed rejoicings in connection with King Edward's Coronation took place on 9th August, 1902, the children's open-air tea in the Headlands being a feature.

The generous gift to the town also of the Free Library by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and its opening by him on 7th May, 1904, must be recorded.

The censuses of 1891 and 1901 show the population at those respective dates to have been 19,454 and 28,653. It is now (1908) estimated at 31,116.



PART II.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY POOR LAW ADMINISTRATION.

To the particulars given in the History ¹ as to the condition of affairs leading up to the Foundation of the Workhouse may be added the undermentioned notes from the Parish Books :—

21st December, 1741. At a Vestry then held it was resolved that a sum of money not exceeding £500 should be raised “to set the poor to work and keep them from being burdensome to the parish.” Also that George Dorr, senior, should be employed to deliver out and take in work to and from the poor at the yearly salary of £20. Also that a Committee, then appointed, should inspect, audit, and allow the accounts, and dispose of and sell all goods that should be made.

23rd February, 1748. Mr. Thos. Benford offered to farm the Workhouse att £360 per annum. Resolved, to accept the offer subject to proper articles being entered into.

22nd November, 1750. Agreed that a levy extraordinary should be allowed to Thos. Benford upon account of ye Small Pox.

22nd April, 1751. Power to sell a Town House, the house of Joseph Mattock, lying East, and Thomas Richards, West.

14th November, 1751. Agreed that there be a Second Meeting after this day to pitch upon a proper person that shall be a Christian, to manage the Workhouse in Chrismas holy days. Tho. Allen, R.

Same date. Resolved to again lett the management of the Workhouse to Thos. Benford, and that two bays of building be erected for his use upon the ground belonging to the Workhouse, which two bays shall be chamber'd.

2nd October, 1752. We, whose names are underwritten, do not agree to pay for the new Build at the Workhouse. [Names follow.]

13th March, 1755. Benford to have Poor for £340, and a further sum for extraordinary expences for malignant distempers, etc.

5th April, 1763. Workhouse let to John Meadows and Thos. Collis for three years from 9th inst., at £10 10s. od. a week. £200 was lent them to carry on a trade there.

8th May, 1797. Resolved "That there shall be three Days Meat, three Days Pudding, and one Day's Stew, if it can be procured, otherwise pudding."



CHAPTER II.

PRESENT GOVERNMENT.

MUCH has happened since 1891. The old Local Board was, by virtue of the Local Government Act, 1894, transformed into the Kettering Urban District Council, now consisting of 25 members. The Burial Board too was, in 1897, absorbed by the Council.

The School Board pursued for many years the even tenour of its way, erecting the Stamford Road Schools in 1892 (the Right Hon. A. H. W. Acland performing the opening ceremony on 15th December, 1892), the Rockingham Road Schools in 1893-94, the Hawthorn Road School (added to later in 1905) in 1894-95, the Park Road Schools in 1898-99, and the Spencer Street Schools in 1902, besides taking over the old British Schools in 1892.

The number of scholars on the register of the Board Schools in April, 1892, was 1,740, and in March, 1903, 3,887, the total number of children attending all the Elementary Schools on the latter date being 5,902. However, this Board, of which Mr. D. F. Gotch was Chairman during the whole of its existence, has also, by virtue of the Education Act, 1902, been dissolved, and the Council have been constituted the Local Education Authority.

The Managers, too, of the National Schools have been by no means idle, as the erection of the St Mary's School, the rebuilding of the Boys' National, and general renovation of their other buildings testifies.

The Kettering Joint Hospital Board was formed in 1895, by virtue of the Kettering Joint Hospital Order. Its members are appointed by the Kettering Urban District Council, and the Kettering Rural District Council, and it controls the Isolation Hospitals, to which patients from the two Districts are admitted.

Several important steps have been taken by the Local Authorities of late years, notably the acquisition by the

Council on 24th June, 1899, of the undertaking of the Kettering Waterworks Company. It was on 6th August, 1897, that a special meeting of the Council was held to consider the advisability of taking steps to acquire the undertaking of the Kettering Waterworks Company, and on the 26th of the same month, a Town's Meeting gave the Council the necessary sanction to promote a Bill with that object.

The Bill was opposed by the Company, but on 11th May, 1898, after having the facts put before them, a Committee of the House of Lords, having Lord Hawkesbury for its chairman, decided that the preamble was proved.

The Council and the Company being unable to agree as to the price to be paid for the undertaking, the matter was in accordance with the Act referred to arbitration. The arbitrators appointed were Mr. James Mansergh, for the Council, and Mr. Charles Hawkesley, for the Company, while the Umpire was Mr. Edward Woods.

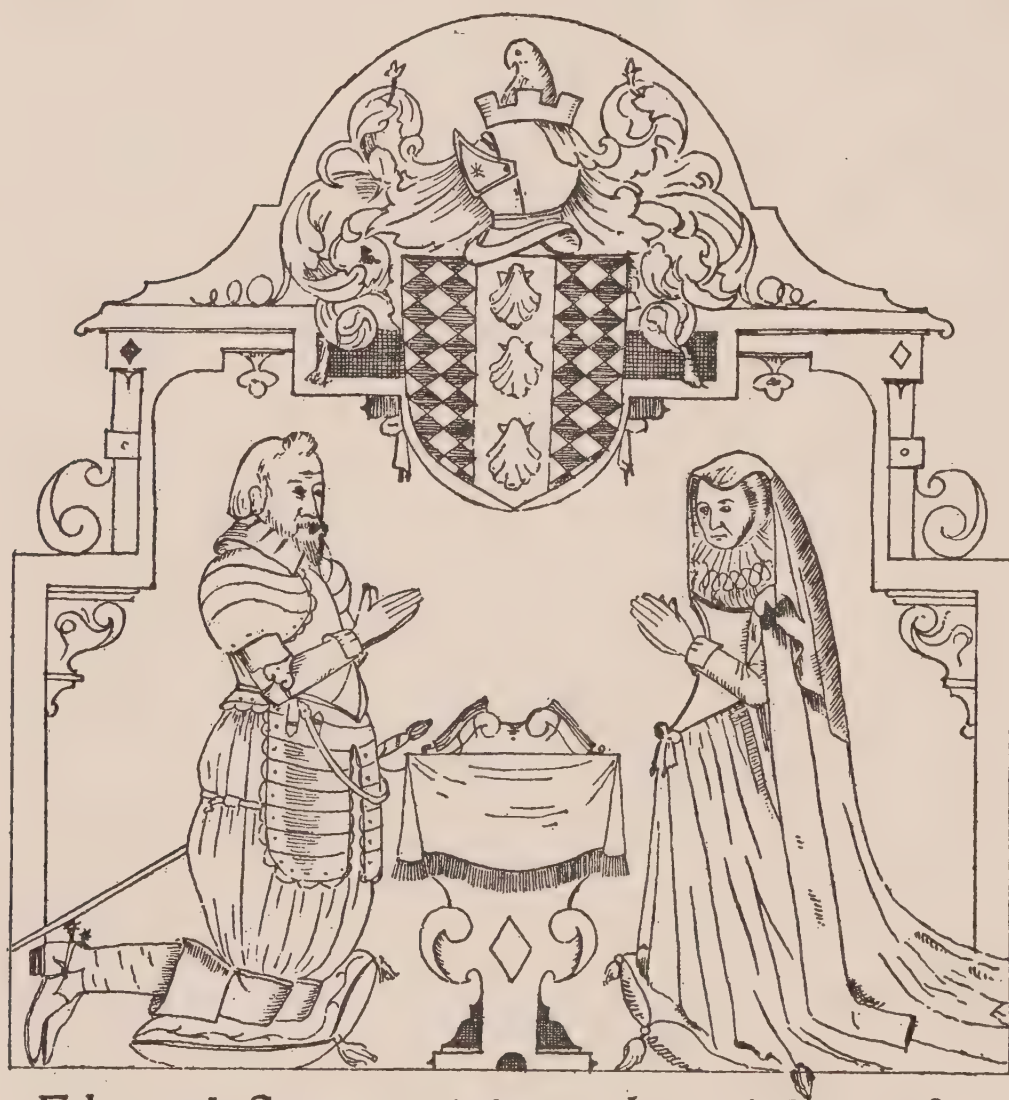
The Arbitration took place at the Westminster Palace Hotel, sittings being held on the 20th, 21st, and 22nd December, 1898, and 26th and 27th January, 1899.

The Arbitrators being unable to agree as to the sum to be paid, the Umpire on 8th May, 1899, awarded the Company £127,880. The total cost, however, including the sum due on Debentures, expenses in connection with the Act, Arbitration, winding up of the Company, compensation to Officials, etc., was £148,111.

In 1901, after a good deal of opposition, an Act was obtained authorising the construction of further reservoirs at Orton and Rothwell.

The question of the provision of Electric Light had been under the consideration of the Council for some years, but it was not until 1903-4 that an Electric Light Station and Works, on Rockingham Road, were erected—the new light being first publicly used on 7th May, 1904.

In conjunction with the Works, a Refuse Destructor was constructed. The proposal to erect it on the site met with determined opposition at the Local Government Board Enquiry, on 23rd and 24th April, 1902, but the Council's proposals were eventually sanctioned.



Edmund Sawyer Esquire late of this pish,
 he married Anne the daughter of Laurance
 Goodman of Blaſton in y^e County of Leceſter
 gent & had iſſue by her 15 Children he liued
 to y^e Age of 69 yeares & died y^e 19th of Septem^{ber}
 Anō Dñi 1630 & lyes interred in this chancell

R. Williams Del.

THE SAWYER BRASS IN KETTERING CHURCH.

PART III.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

CHAPTER I.

CONCERNING THE CHURCH AND ITS RECTORS.

THE first known rector was one **Master Grace** (Mag. Gracia), for it is recorded in the Lincoln Registers that in 1225 **Ranulf de Ferariis**, clerk, was presented to the living by the Abbot and Convent of Peterborough, subject to the right of Master Grace, theretofore Rector of the same church, to the profits of the same which were given to him by the Lord Pope for the space of three years. On 9th Aug., 1229, **Master William de Scotere** (or Scother), clerk, was presented. He was followed in 1233 by **Master Ralph de Colingeham**, sub-deacon. Then came **Manuel**, son of **Bonvassallus de Sauro** of the City of Genoa, the Pope's kinsman, who in 1250 obtained an Indulgence¹ to hold the Rectory of Kettering and other benefices, causing them to be served by vicars, he being non-resident and not in orders. On the death of Emanuel, **Master Roger de Rothwell** was instituted, the date being 11 Cal., Nov. 1284.

In 1290 there was an Indulgence² to **Master Roger Brun**, clerk, doctor of civil and canon law, to retain among others, the benefice of Kettering, to support him as Chancellor of the University of Oxford. And in the same year there was relaxation of one year and forty days penance to those visiting the Church of Kettering on the feasts of S.S. Peter and Paul and the Assumption, and in their Octaves.²

1. Cal, Papal Documents, Vol. I. Temp. 8, Innocent IV. Vide pp. 8. 9. of History.

2 Ibid. Temp. Nicholas IV.

Notwithstanding the above reference to Roger Brun, it is stated that **Master Philip de Kilkenny**, psb., was presented on 4 Non. July, 1330, on the death of Roger de Rothwell. It appears Philip de Kilkenny died on 12th March, 1346, and was buried in the house of the Friars Preachers, at Northampton.

In the year 1347, 6 Clement VI., the Church of Kettering, which was then worth 40 marks, was presented to **Alan de Settrington**, the incumbent of the parish Church of St. Crux in Fossgate, York, but he died in Rome almost immediately after. ¹

Thereupon, one **John Wade** prayed the Pope to confer upon him all the right that Alan had to the said Church, he being ready to pay out of its funds 200 florins to the subsidy against the Turks, and notwithstanding that he had the Deanery of the King's Chapel at Hastings, the petition was granted at Avignon on 5 Kal., September 1347. ¹

Then, still in the same year, came a Mandate ² to the Bishop of Lincoln, the Archdeacon of Huntingdon, and Richard de Witwil, Canon of Lincoln, to inform themselves, touching the attack made on John Wade in his Church of Kettering, by Alan de Crophill, clerk, William de Houton, Alan de Houthom, Stephen Kysman of Haringworth, clerks, John de Werdon, the Elder Knt, Thomas de Stone, Wm. Sidrak of Rogyham, Geoffrey de Kilkenny, Philip de Kilkenny his brother, Roger ad Cameram of Weldon, Edward Henerd, Thos. de Preston, Henry Pollard, Robert Pollard his brother, John Gybon, Wm. de Wyelston, John de Wyelston the younger, Robert Forster of Carlton, Nicholas de Crophill, Robert Senior, and Geoffrey de Rogynham, laymen, who burned the doors, broke the windows, beat and wounded clerks and laymen in the church who were keeping the church on John's behalf, took their clothes and money, killed a clerk, threw down images of Christ crucified and St. Mary the Virgin, and other Saints as if they were infidels, cut down trees in the cemetery, and burned the manse, carried off money, clothes, corn, animals, and other goods of the said rector to the value of 300 li.; occupied the church for three months, and kept there lewd

¹ Calendar of Papal Documents, Vol. IV.

² Ibid. 6 Clement VI.

women for many days and nights; moreover, the said John de Werdon, Knt, and Alan de Crophill got letters from the King's Court against John Wade, causing him and his people to be banished from the realm. And, concludes the mandate, if these things were so, the perpetrators of these outrages are to be excommunicated, and cited to appear before the Pope within two months.

Seeing, however, that in 1349 the Roll of Confirmations of Benefices accepted by Papal authority has the entry, "For **Alan de Crophill** M.A. of the dioc. of Lincoln the parish church of Ketering," it would appear that the foundation for the above sensational report was but slight.

In 1391, 2 Boniface IX., came a mandate to collate and assign to **John Outheby**, Rector of Kettering, the Canonry and Prebend of Walyngton, in Hereford, value 30 marks, notwithstanding that he held besides Ketryng the sinecure Chapel of St. Giles Blaston, value 70 marks, and that he had recently had from the Pope provision of Canonries, &c. in Salisbury, Lichfield, York, and Southwell, and of a dignity in Salisbury.

On 22nd Dec., 1396, on the presentation of John Tyndale and William Braunchepath, patrons under a lease and grant from Peterborough Abbey, **George Oudeby**, psb., was instituted on the death of Dominus John Oudeby.

John Eston, psb., was presented by King Richard in right of the vacancy of the Abbey on the death of George Oudeby on 20th Jan., 1397.

Will Islep, psb., was instituted on 23rd October, 1420, on the resignation of John Eston, who exchanged to Conyngton Rectory. On the death of Islep, **Thomas Salesbury**, psb., succeeded, 23rd March, 1446. On the death of Thos. Salesbury, **Master Richard Kere**, clerk, was instituted, 15th Dec., 1460. Bridges states that on the death of Phil. de Kilkenny, and of T. Salesbury, and R. Kere, there was given to the Convent of Peterborough as a mortuary a horse with a saddle and bridle.

By his will, in which he is described as Archdeacon of Caermarthen, Richard Kerr gave 10 marks for the reparation of the northern part of the chancel of his Church of Ketryng if the parishioners wished it. He was succeeded by **Master John Jeffray**, or **Gefferay**, on 29th July, 1488. By his

will,¹ dated 29th October, 1493, he bequeaths his soul to Almighty God, to the Blessed Virgin Mary his glorious Mother, to the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul, to the blessed Virgin Katherine and all Saints, and directs his body to be buried in the Church in which parish he should happen to die, before the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary where there was an image of that piety, or, if there were not such an image, before one to be made and placed before the place of his burial, and desires a stone raised over his sepulchre as seemed best to his executors. And among directions for the welfare of his soul he says: "And let there be on the day of my death if it may conveniently be done a trental of masses for my soul." On his death,

Dominus Robert Cutt was instituted on 21st Jan., 1493; and on his death,

Master Jacob Whitstons, LL.D., followed on 7th Aug., 1502.

Master Thomas Lark, on death of Whitstons, succeeded, 5th Dec., 1512. He resigned; and then came

Master Robert Shereton, S.T.P., 11th June, 1515. He too resigned, and was followed by

Master William Grene, S.T.P., on 28th July, 1529. He made his will² on the 29th Sept., 1540, in which he is described as "William Grene doctor of divinitie Canon Resident of the Cathedral Church of Seynt Paule of London," and after various bequests he gave to the parish of Kettering, where he was, "persone xxli to be bestowed as foloweth for thornaments of the high aulter and blessed Sacrament xx marks. And xx nobles to be devyded to por people of the same parishe." He appearst to have also been parson of Northchurche and vicar of Lancaster. He was too, apparently, connected with the Sawyers, as he gave to Anne Sayere his sisters daughter xxli. and to every other of his sisters children xli. apece.

On his death came **Master Anthony Draycott, Jur. Doctor**. He was presented 20th Dec., 1540. by the Bishop, by grant from the dissolved Abbey of Peterborough and by King Henry VIII., Supreme Head upon Earth under Christ

¹ Prerog. Ct. of Canterbury, 3 Vox.

² Ibid 24 Alenger.

Further search shows that Anthony Burton was instituted 12 Aug., 1561, and compounded for first fruits 27 Aug., 1561.

of the Church of England. The Doctor took the oath of supremacy, and renounced the Pope's authority. A similar institution of 7th Oct., 1540, was cancelled. It is probable that an Alice Draycott, who married Edmund Sawyer, was a sister of the Doctor's.

Doctor Draycott having been deprived, **Master William Todd** was instituted on 14th May, 1560, by Archbishop Parker, on the presentation of Queen Elizabeth. He was in turn deprived, and on 12th Aug., 1560, **Anthony Burton**, L.L.B., was presented by Edward Watson. He compounded for his first fruits on 27th August, 1560, and occurs as Clerk on 12th August, 1561. On his death, **Robert Cooke** was instituted, 2nd March, 1575-6. He resigned the same year, however, and **John Dammes** was instituted 10th Sept., 1576, and compounded for his first fruits on 31st October following. About this time Edward Watson, junior, had some trouble with the Crown as Escheator of Northamptonshire, and the Rectory which he was found to be seized of, and to be of the value of £10 per annum, was taken into the hands of the Sheriff. Thereupon John Dammes came before the Barons of the Exchequer and demanded the Rectory and its appurtenances, and said that long before the said process, the Rectory of Kettering being vacant by the death of Anthony Burton, he was presented to the said Rectory and lawfully inducted by the Bishop of Peterborough, and was seized of the same until 15th April, 19 Elizabeth, when he was expelled by the Sheriff, and denied that Edward Watson was seized of the same.¹ His prayer was effectual, and it is recorded that "it seems good to the Barons that the hands of the Queen should be removed and that the Rector should be restored."

David Thompson followed, and compounded for his first fruits 6th Oct., 1598. He died 9th April, 1633, and by a nuncupative will, proved at Northampton on the 27th of the same month, he left everything to his godson (*sic*) Ed. Drury, he having formerly married the grandmother of Edward Drury.

Thomas Harris, M.A., was instituted 6th May, 1633, on the presentation of Sir Lewis Watson, and is said to still have been Rector in 1650, despite the fact that **William Spaulden**

¹ Memoranda Rolls Mich., 20 Eliz. m, 37.

signed the Register as Rector in September, 1649. This William Spaulden, "a godlie and orthodox divine," was nominally at all events, the Vicar of Rothwell in 1647, and made repeated efforts to obtain some of the emoluments of his office there, through the powers that were in the shape of the Committee for Plundered Ministers. It rather looks as if he gave up the task in despair, and for a time tried Kettering.

John Maydwell was instituted 18th November, 1651, and ejected 24th August, 1662. Then follow the other Rectors given in the History:—Thomas Williamson, William Fowler, Samuel Sherwin, Francis Sawyer, Robert Watkin, Thomas Allen Gilbert, Bennet, Joseph Knight, and Brice William Fletcher. Henry Watson, there also given, was instituted 13th Sept., 1827; Richard Vevers on 6th April, 1831; Henry Corrie on 17th April, 1838; and T. H. Madge on 26th Feb., 1847.

The Rev. **Canon Lindsay, M.A.**, who was instituted on the 3rd March, 1863, died 29th April, 1892, at the age of 68. "For nearly thirty years he had fulfilled with distinguished zeal and faithfulness the manifold duties of his sacred office, winning the hearty affection of his associates and the respect and admiration of all classes of his fellow-townsmen." At the close of 1893, windows to his memory were unveiled both at the Parish Church and St. Andrew's.

He was succeeded by the Rev. **Bernard Robert Wilson, M.A.**, who was instituted 27th July, 1892. He resigned in July, 1898, to take up work at the Oxford House, Bethnal Green, and also to become Rector of St. Matthew's there.

The Rev. **Patrick Murray Smythe, M.A.**, the present Rector, was his successor, and was instituted to the Rectory at the Church House, London, by the Bishop of Peterborough, on 7th July, 1898, and inducted at Kettering on the following day by the Archdeacon of Oakham.



A North West View of Kettering taken from the Common To the right the River Sep 1721

VIEW OF KETTERING IN 1721.

CHAPTER II.

OLD REFERENCES TO THE CHURCH.

THERE are in old Kettering wills many interesting and quaint references to the Church and its contents which ought to be recorded.

For instance, Thomas Lynne, who made his will on 4th October, 1512, desired to be buried in the new yle of Seynt John Baptist in the Church of Peter and Paule for the towne of Kettering.

John Ayer, draper, on 15th April, 1522, desires to be buried within the Chapell of Seynt John Baptist and makes bequests to that Chapel and for his "lare" in the same Chapel, to Our Ladys' Gild, St. Katherine's Altar, the Sepulchre Gild, Bells etc.

Thomas Hunt, of Warketon, "preste," in his will dated 7th October, 1522, bequeaths his body to be "buried within the Church of Peter and Paule, at Ketyrynge, in the south syde under the stone of Sir John Mathew. Also I bequeath for my mortuarie as manner and custome of ye towne is. Also I bequeath to a preste to synge v masses of the v wounds fyve Wednesdays for me and my ffrendes xx*d*. for xxx*ti*. masses of Jhesu to be done xxx*ti*. ffridays xs. Also I bequeath for a trentall to be done for me and my frendes xs." George Cletherow preste, who is the supervisor of this will, is referred to in a will of 1515 as parochial chaplain of Kettering ¹.

John Baker in his will of 12th September, 1533, leaves something for "payntyng of our lady's tabernacle."

John Ball (1524-27) gives some barley to "our ladye of Kettering guild."

William Bryne, husbandman, on 24th June, 1529, bequeaths to the bells xij*d*. and to "our lady gyld xij*d*."

William Fleckton, in 1528, desires, like the others mentioned,

¹ History, p. 97.

to be buried "wtin the Chapell of Saynt John the Baptiste wtin the Church of Petr. and Paule, in Ketteryng." He also refers to St. John's gild, the lady gild, and gives minute directions as to the prayers to be offered for him.

Henry Deneye, 7th March, 1536, requests to be buried in the Chapel of Seynt Katheryn, and gives to our Lady's Guyld viij*l* and to St. Katheryn's Guyld vs. One of the witnesses is Sir Nycholas Goodman, who in a later will is referred to as "gostly father."

John Cave, on 8th Jany., 1533, requests that his body be buried in the Church between Alons stone and oure lady's Chapell dore, and proceeds: "Also I bequeath for my principall as the Lawe doo admytt. Item to the hie aulter of Ketering for tithes forgotten xii*l*. Item to our Ladys Guyld there xii*l*. Item to St. Johns Guyld there xii*l*. Item to the bells there xii*l*. Item to the torches theyre xii*l*. . . . I bequeth unto Ketering Church a paier of Silver Sencers the price of v*l*i. at the leste." In this will George Cletherowe is referred to as Curate.

Richard Alderman, on 12th April, 1543, among other bequests, gives to the sepulcre light vs. and to the Church a blak cope and a vestment of blak velvet, and to the making of the Market Crosse 3*l*i.

John Lane, in 1546, wishes to be buried in the Chapel of Sainte John within Kethering Church, and gives minute directions as to the masses and prayers to be offered on his behalf. Among other bequests he gives two whyte tunacles of whyte damaske and his best vestemente to the Aulter of St. John in Kethering Church, his wife, Elizabeth, and his son, John, to have the custodye of them so long as they dwell in Kethering.

Many more of these interesting references might of course be given, but those quoted serve to give us glimpses of the Church, as it then was, with its Chapels of St. John and St. Catherine, the Lady Chapel and Our Lady's Tabernacle.

The Churchyard was added to in 1708, by the Rt. Hon. Lewis Lord Rockingham, who on the 22nd June in that year, gave a piece of grass ground, lying in the Churchyard and then made part thereof, containing one acre and bounded on the North and South by other land of the Donor, on the West by the old Churchyard, and on the East by the Highway. The dedication document is dated 15th July, 1708, and the dimensions of the land are there stated to be 166 feet by 126 feet. The last-named document and the grant are both preserved in the Church.

CHAPTER III.

THE CHANTRY CHAPEL.

THE following wills throw further light on at any rate part of the origin of the endowments of this Chapel and reveal some of the duties of the "morrowe masse preste."

The first will is that of Margery Talor, of Kettering, widow. It was made on 12th October, 1526, and after some preliminary words the Testatrix desires to be buried in "the chapell of our lady ther at Ketryng," and goes on "also I bequeth for my mortuarye as the custom and manner is ther. It. I bequeth to the hye altar [for] tythes forgotten viij*℥*. Also to the moder chyrch of lincoln ij*℥*. It. to the torches xv*℥*. Also I bequeth to the iiij orders of frears at North'mton xs. for the whych they shall say oon trentall for me and my frends the wych xs. shalbe bestowyd at the dyscretion of my sonne, Sir Rychard Also I bequeth yerly oute of a certayn grownde called Sowthdame, vijs. for a yerly obbett to be done in the churche of Ketryng for me the said M'gery and the sowles off John Taylor and Richard Homes my husband and for Ric. Taylor and Thomas my childer off the whych vijs. the pis'h prist shall have yerly for the bead rowle ¹ and kepyng off the said obbytt xij*℥*. and the rest of the vijs. to be bestow'd att the dyscrecon off my son Sir Ric. and his assignes."

The second will in question is that of Sir Richard Taylor, priest, made in 1535, and is as follows: "In dei noie Amen. The eight daie of Januarii the yere of our lorde god Millmo quingenmo xxxv*ti*. I Richard Tailor, prest, of hole mynde and good memory make my Testamente in this manner: First I bequeth my soule to allmytie god to our blessed lady sancte Mary and to all the sanctes in heven my bodye to be buried in the chapell of our ladye in the church of Ketryng. And to the same chappell and to the churche a cope or a vestymente of white silke as thei shall thinck best the price x marks or vij*li*.

1 The Bede Roll was a list of those who were to be specially prayed for,

Item for my mortuary as the manner is. Item to the bellis ijs. Item to the torches ijs. Item to our ladyes chapell in Northampton where I did syng iijs. iiij*d*. Item my surplesse to our ladyes chapell in Ketyryng for the morrowe masse preste to weare att service tyme and he to saye when he doothe on a pater noster and an ave or ells att the lest to say god have m'cy of his soule. And the said pater noster and ave to be said for my soule and all chri'n soules. Item to Sir Willm my fellowe a short gown and a jerkyn of say to pray for me. Item to Thomas Mann a closse in Ketyryng called the damme. And he to pay yerelie besides the lords duty vjs. viii*d*. to the morrowe masse preest after the will of Agnes Tailor the which will is in the hands of Thomas Richardes and thatt tellith to pray for the soules of John Tailor and Agnes Henry Crosse and John Richardes and his wiff and to pay vijs yerelie for an obbytt to be don on Sancte Thomas daie or the daie before or after for the soule of John Tailor and M'gery, his wife, and Sir Richarde Tailor, Thomas Tailor and Richard Amys after the will of the saide M'gery Tailor dated the yere of our lord god 1526, of the which vijs. the parish preest [shall have yerelie] for the bedrole off the soules and for the dirige keping xij*d*. Item to ev'y preest iiij*d*. and to ev'y clark that comyth to the dirige ij*d*. to the Town j*d*. more than than to other for setting of the hersse and to ev'y childe thatt can syng a leasson j*d*. Item to iiij beadmen off Ketyryng iiij*d*. Item to the bells and to the bellman to goo aboute and to the Ringars xvj*d*. and the Resid[ue] to poore people and yf thei chersse [*i.e.*, cherish] nott the soules the poore people to have the said money and the said Thomas Mason and John Lane of Haroden ther heires and executors to be bounden to the Church of Ketyryng to Master John Lane and to other honest men of the same town in xl*vi*. marks sterlyng for the payment of the said money. Item xx acres of londe to Edmonde Carter to paie yerely for the space of xx yeres ijs. bysides the lordes rente to the morrowe masse preste and he to say deprofundis att the levitory for my soule and for all ch'rin soules and yff ther be no morowe masse preste then the said ijs. to be guyven to the poore people of Ketyryng. Theis forsaid lands have I surrendered by Marke Haiselwodd condicyonally into the hands of my lorde Abbot after the custom of Ketyryng and so to be notyd in the copie yff it please my lorde and his counsell. Item to the sepulcher lyghte of Ketyryng to be aboute my

hearsse iijs. iiij*℥*.—Witness Sir Hughe Edmonson, p'sn of Broughton, William Packe, etc.

Both these wills are to be seen at the Northampton Probate Registry, the reference numbers being Book C, 104, and Book E, 187, respectively.



PART IV.

THE NONCONFORMISTS.

CHAPTER I.

THE INDEPENDENTS.—TOLLER CHAPEL.

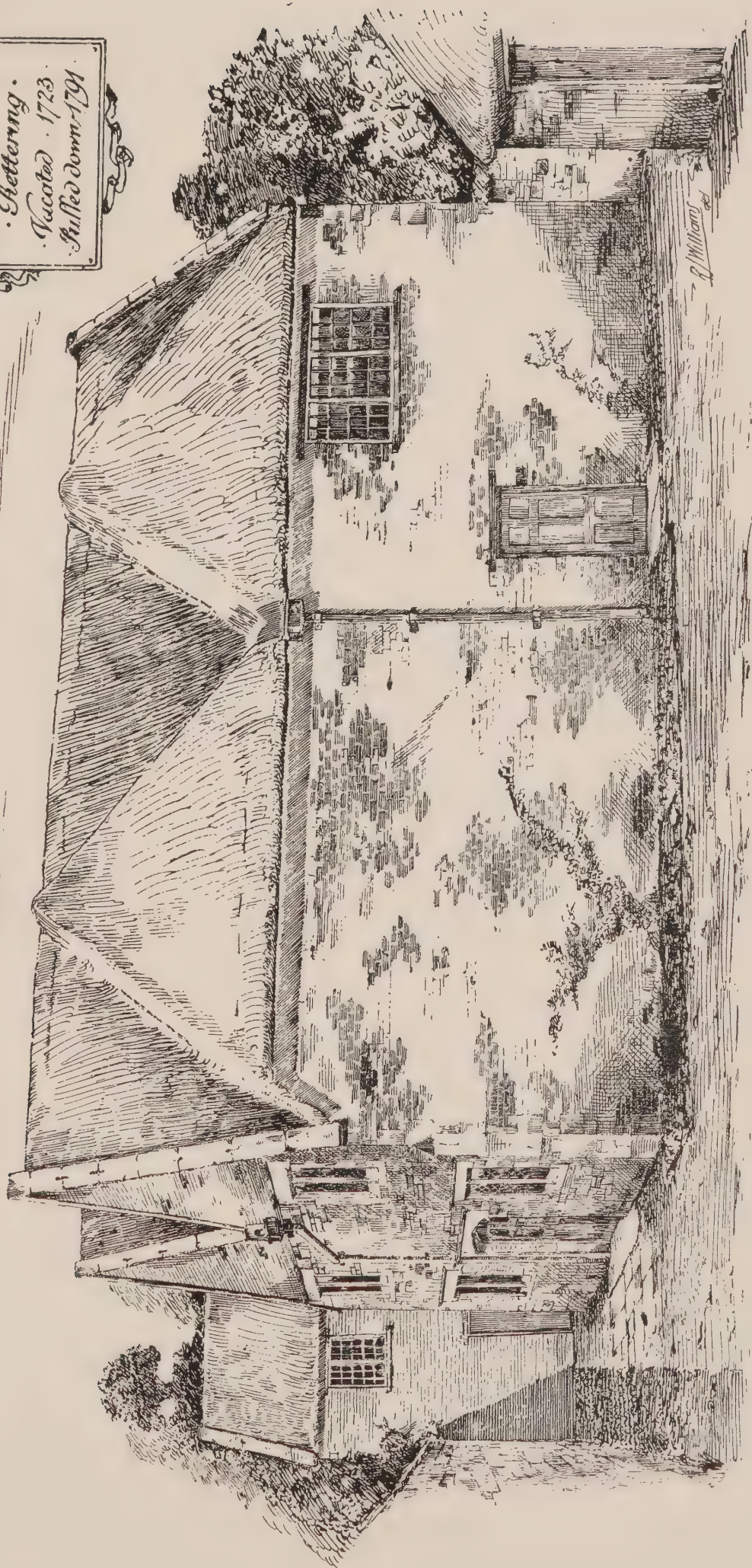
ABOUT the time of King Charles' Indulgences Mr. Maidwell opened a Meeting House in Allen's Yard, which continued to be the Meeting House until the Great Meeting was built in 1723. Thereafter it was used as a barn till 1792, when Mr. Cobb took it down to make room for a garden. A curious old model of the building is still in existence. The site was somewhere at the rear of the London City and Midland Bank.

Mr. Thomas Wills, who became pastor in 1709, had good pulpit abilities, and his people purchased a house for his use as a Manse at the bottom and North side of Dykers Lane (West Street). There was a large garden, and a backway was permitted to be used through Daniel Baker's garden to the Meeting House. The premises thus purchased were in Mr. Wills own name and he treated them subsequently as his own property!

On 20th March, 1719, the Northampton College Street records state that "Mr. Wills having desired his Dismission to ye Church at Kettering, to which his son is pastor, it was granted." This Church was of course that then meeting in the building on the south side of Goosepasture Lane.

There are some rather quaint notes as to some of the Ministers in the Church Records. Thus we are told that Mr. Saunders, who died in 1736, and was buried in the Chapel Burial Ground, was "a handsome man, had a pleasant voice, fair countenance, and graceful appearance." His salary till 1735, when he had £71 2s. od., was £60. Mr. Boyce was "under the common size and reserved in converse. He had a great gift in prayer."

FIRST
INDEPENDENT
MEETING-HOUSE.
in Allens Yard.
Shuttering.
Vacated . 1723.
Pulled down 1791.



Mr. Fuller was "of excellent behaviour, rich, and not proud, rather tall in person."

In 1800, there appears to have been a severe hailstorm, for there was paid for "glazing 233 squares after the Hail Storm, 4th May, the 2 large windows £2 15s. od."

Coming to more recent history, there was a secession from the Church in the autumn of 1892, the seceders founding what is now known as the London Road Congregational Church.

The Rev. J. M. Watson resigned his pastorate, and later, in December, 1900, accepted a call to the Church at Clark Street, Morecambe.

His successor, the Rev. John Thompson, commenced his ministry on 13th December, 1896, his ordination services being held on 16th February following. For four years Mr. Thompson had acted as pastor of Howard Chapel, Bedford, and among the speakers at his recognition services were Dr. Brown, and Revds. T. Stephens, T. Gasquoine, J. J. Cooper. and W. L. Lee.

Mr. Thompson was, owing to ill-health, compelled to resign early in 1898, and was succeeded by the Rev. David Stephens, of Hinckley, the present pastor, who commenced his ministry on 3rd July following, his ordination services taking place on the 27th October.

The Chapel was much altered and renovated, and a new organ provided, in 1898-99, the re-opening services being held on 23rd March in the latter year.

THE LONDON ROAD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

As already stated, a secession took place in the autumn of 1892 from the Old Toller Church and Congregation.

The services of the new body, then called the Kettering New Congregational Church, were first conducted in the Temperance Hall, the first of such services being held there on 6th November, 1892. The Congregation increasing, however, the large hall at the Stamford Road Hall was utilised from 1st January, 1893, to 30th April, 1899.

The Church was duly formed on 20th February, 1893, and from the first the business affairs of the Church and Congregation have been conducted by a Council elected by them.

The Iron Room in the Post Office Arcade was acquired for forwarding the work, but ultimately sold.

On 13th May, 1894, the first pastor, the Rev. William Langdon Lee, commenced his pastorate. It was Mr. Lee's first charge, he having just completed his course at Western College, Plymouth.

In September, 1896, it was decided to open a Chapel Building Fund. The Chapel Site at the corner of London Road and St. Peter's Avenue was soon after acquired, and in March, 1898, a tender for building the New Chapel was accepted. Memorial Stones were laid on 7th June following, and the building was finished and the opening services held on 4th May, 1899, the preacher at the evening service being the Rev. R. J. Campbell, M.A. An organ was not at first purchased, but eventually one was secured and formally opened on 1st May, 1904.

On 21st July, 1907, Mr. Lee announced his resignation of the pastorate, he having accepted an invitation to East Hill, Wandsworth. He preached his farewell sermons on 29th September, and a farewell meeting, at which a presentation was made, took place on 2nd October, 1907.

In April, 1908, an invitation to the pastorate, given to the Rev. Thomas Frithjof Johanson, of Royston, was accepted, and he commenced his work here the third Sunday in June.

The Sunday School, which was established on the 13th, November, 1892, at first met in the old British School, but from 1st January, 1893, till the present time the School has been held at the Stamford Road Council School.



CHAPTER II.

THE BAPTISTS.

FURTHER light has now been thrown on the approximate date of the death of the first Baptist Pastor, William Wallis. For his will dated 23rd August, 1707, has been found among those proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. In this document he is described as "Searge maker" and gives legacies to his wife, not named, his sons John, Samuel, and Joseph, and his daughter Graves' children. His real estate and personalty, subject to the payment of his debts and legacies, is given to his son Thomas Wallis, who, with Samuel, is appointed executor. The will was proved on 13th October, 1711, so that the Testator probably died in August or September of that year.

Further, in the records of the College Street Chapel, Northampton, it is stated that on 7th May, 1712, Brother Davenport desired his dismissal "to ye Church at Kettering, to which Mr. Wallis (now deceased) was pastor." Then on 25th October, 1713, there was before the College Street Church "A Letter from ye Church at Kettering (to which Mr. Will: Wallis deceased was Pastor) wherein that Church desires messengers from our Church to see and be Witnesses to their Faith and Order in ye Ordination of Mr. Tho: Wallis to ye Pastoral Office among them on Thursday, ye 29th of this instant, was now read and their desire complied with by our Church; Whereupon Bro. Moore was appointed to go as Messenger thither." On 16th December following, Bro. Moore gave an account of the ordination "Whereof our Church declared their approbation and satisfaction."

Turning to the recent history of this Church, it was Rev. H. Beresford Robinson who succeeded the Rev. J. B. Myers on the 21st November, 1880. He left in September, 1887.

Mr. Phillips having accepted a call to the St. Mary's Baptist Church, Norwich, which he has since left for the Bloomsbury Central Church, gave up this pastorate on the last Sunday of 1899, and was succeeded by the Rev. Henry Davis,

the present pastor, who came to Kettering from Trinity Road Baptist Church, Halifax. His recognition services were held 14th November, 1900, and during his pastorate the Chapel buildings have been much added to, and an entirely new organ purchased.

Nelson Street Chapel, at first a branch of Fuller Church, was opened at the end of March, 1892, and on 2nd August, following, the recognition services of the Rev. D. John, who had accepted the pastorate, were held. Mr. John left in December, 1903, for Stalham, Norfolk, and was succeeded by Rev. Leonard Smith, a student from Pastor's College, London, on 6th November, 1904.



CHAPTER III.

THE WESLEYANS.¹

ON 23rd May, 1893, this body congratulated themselves on the opening of the Chapel in the Rockingham Road, the service being conducted by the Rev. C. H. Kelly an ex-president of the Conference.

Since then a site too has been acquired on the Stamford Road for further extension in due time.

THE PRIMITIVE METHODISTS.¹

The Northampton Gazette and General Advertiser of 1st February, 1855, states that: "The room known as the Old Station House was opened for divine worship on Sunday, December 31st, 1854, by the Primitive Methodists. The Rev. J. Stafford preached in the morning, Mr. M. Irons in the afternoon, and Mr. Rutherford in the evening It is hoped that this laborious body of Christians may be instrumental in promoting the spiritual and moral improvement of many of the inhabitants."

In 1901, for the first time, the Primitive Methodist Conference appointed a minister for Kettering in the person of Rev. G. Bicheno, who commenced his services at the Corn Exchange on 9th August in that year, the old Chapel in Grange Road being discarded. The cause so grew, however, that a new Chapel and School were erected in Bath Road, and the former opened on 18th, April, 1905. An organ has been lately added, Mr. Carnegie having contributed to the cost.

¹ Vide History, p. 113.

PART V.

ENDOWMENTS AND CHARITIES.

CHAPTER I.

KETTERING GRAMMAR SCHOOL.¹

THE origin of the Kettering Grammar School has given rise to many conjectures. The one finding most favour is that the endowments formed part of the possessions given for the sustentation of a morrow mass priest. The Chantry Certificates state that there was at Kettering "One stipendarye preest founded and maynteyned partely with the devotion of the inhabitants of the seyd Town of Kettering which ys a Market Towne and partely with the revenues of certaine Lands and Tenements gyven by Cope of Courte Role to fynde a preest callyd the morrow mase to sing ther for ever. Is worth by yere xls Rente Resolute xvijs jd ob Remaynethe Clere xxijs xd ob." It is curious that the rent reserved in respect of the lease shortly mentioned is xxijs ijd., but the fact remains that on 10 December 1571, Queen Elizabeth granted to William James and John Grey all the lands and tenements lying and being in Kettering then or then lately in the occupation of the Churchwardens of the Church there or of other inhabitants of Kettering and theretofore to the perpetual maintenance of the obit priest or other like purposes in the Church of Kettering, given assigned and appointed. The grant was in free and common socage and the rent reserved iid.²

The Manor of Kettering, which, up to the time of the Dissolution of Monasteries, was one of the possessions of

¹ Vide History p. 114 et seq.

² Ibid p. 85.

Peterborough Abbey, was then seized by the Crown, and there are a good many grants and leases relating to it in the succeeding half century.

As now, there appear, even in those days, to have been prominent men eager for the Town's welfare, and it may probably be assumed that it was owing to their representations that the Crown decided to found a grammar school here. For on 15 June, 1577, Queen Elizabeth by letters patent "in consideration that Kettering was a large town and great in the number of boys and replete of youths and that the said town might be adorned with a learned suitable and lettered man and schoolmaster by whom the boys and youths there might be instructed and educated in good learning and the fear of God," granted to Edward Watson junior gent. Basil Lane gent. Henry Sawyer Thomas Sparrow Henry Richards William Cave Henry Linne Richard Meadhouse and Nicholas Alderman the shop lately in the tenure of Henry Lavere another shop in the tenure of Thomas Belcher and a house in Silver Lane in the tenure of William Haslewood a cottage and certain leys at Bromehill in the tenure of Agnes Harte widow a close called Pooles Close in the tenure of Edward Watson a close in Northolde in the tenure of Henry Drurye a house in the tenure of Richard Hempstocke a house and half virgate of land in the tenure of John Drewrye a small close in Northolde and a toft and leasowe at le Malt myll in the tenure of Henry Sawyer and the house and lands in the tenure of Henry Palmer the house in the tenure of Robt. Parsons and the house in the tenure of Robert Weston Le Spinney et Le Maltmyll in the tenure of Thomas Houlston a barn in the tenure of John Drewrye a small house in Kettering Market in the tenure of Thomas Belcher a house in the tenure of Broughton and all the lands at Lymekill in the tenure of Thomas Belcher. Also a barn called Le Towne barne in the tenure of Hugh Cave. All which were parcel of the Manor of Kettering and late possessions of the Monastery of Peterborough. The grant was for a term of 21 years from the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary then last past and the rent xxij*s* ijd payable at the feasts of St. Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation by equal portions. The grant provided that the tenants should do all requisite repairs, and that the Trustees should nominate a schoolmaster from time to time to be approved by the Bishop. It also contains a proviso

that if five of the nine tenants should die during the said term the remaining four should immediately surrender the letters patent, and that they with five other of the better inhabitants of Kettering should cause to be procured others for a lease of 21 years. There was also a proviso that a school house should be well and conveniently provided.

In view of this grant and the conditions it contains for the appointment of a schoolmaster and the provision of a school house, it seems evident that the school was thereby founded, and that all other theories as to the date of its foundation and endowment must fall to the ground.

It should be noted also that all the premises granted are said to have been formerly part of the possessions of Peterborough, and not of the morrow mass priest.

On 16 February, 1597, there are the particulars for a further grant, which, after mentioning the lease of 15 June, 1577, and that the premises were demised thereby for the sole behoof and maintenance of a Schoolmaster in Kettering for the better instruction of youth within the said town, where there was a great number, and also that the nomination of a fit and sufficient man to be Schoolmaster there was, by virtue of the said lease, committed to the election of the trustees, provided that his sufficiency was approved and allowed by the Bishop of the Diocese, went on to state that forasmuch as the same was first intended for the increase of learning, and it might seem reasonable so to be granted again it was recommended that the new patentees with the schoolmaster for the time being should have power to let the same to the only benefit of the Schoolmaster so long as he should continue Schoolmaster there, and no longer, and also that none of the patentees should be tenants.

The new Lease was granted in the following year, and there was another lease for 31 years, but at the old rent, on 17 May, 1626.

In 1632, or thereabouts, the State Papers give certain particulars as to the Manor of Kettering, stating that the rents from Customary Tenants are £65 5s. 8½d., Rents of Cottages 22s. 2d., Tolls 24s. 4d. In all £67 12s. 2½d. The document also says "farm rents there are but two parcells the first whereof was lately granted to the Towne for the use of the School." If the rent thus granted was the 22s. 2d. it may be assumed that it was at this time that the reversion

of the premises was granted to the School Trustees. For although both in 1628 and 1631 the reversion was apparently dealt with (in the one case the reference is in Letters Patent and the other in the Close Rolls), there are no more references to leases to the Crown.

"The schoolmaster of Kettering, one Mr. Seaton," is referred to in 1635 as a nonconformitant but he protested that he was absolutely conformable and zealously given that way, and no man could be found that would accuse him in any particular.

In 1653 there was a survey of certain lands and houses at Kettering, "parcell of the possessions of Charles the late King of which he was seized as in right of the Crown but then settled on Trustees for ye use of the Commonwealth of England and by them held as of the Manor of East Greenwich in free and common socage by fealty only."

The premises described in this survey are those demised by the lease of 17th May, 1626, and the various properties are dealt with in great detail.

For instance: "Edward Drurye houldeth one house conteyning one room and a croft neere unto adjoyninge bounded on the North by Stanch Lane South on Napwell and adjoyning west to North Bridge conteyning one acre and two roods more or less also half a yard of land lying dispersed within the Common fields belonging to the Towne of Kettering conteyning eight acres more or lesse worth upon improvement per ann. vjli."

Again: "Henry Cave houldeth two shoppes situate in Rotten Roe neere the Market Place in Kettering bounded on the North by the Stocke House, and on the south by a shop in the tenure of Henry Bullock wch is worth upon improvement per ann. xxiijs."

"William Moate houldeth a house in Rotten Roe aforesaid conteyning one room belowe stayrs and one above bounded on the North by Thomas Randol wch is worth upon improvement per ann. xijs."

John Ashby also held a similar house in Rotten Row; William Roberts had a shop opposite the "Lyon Inne," and Timothy Pattison premises adjoining the Cocke Inn. There were too various properties in Mill Lane, in the Street leading to the Common Bakehouse, in Wadcroft and Windmill Field, and a barne called the Towne barne had been converted into a house.

The schoolhouse is thus described: "Mr. . . . Hewett houldeth as Schoolemaster one house used for the Schoolehouse and also one other house adjoyning to the said school conteyning a hall a parler and two chambers over them and a garden conteyning one Rood and ten perches more or less bounded on the East by Samuel Houldmans house on the West by William Ansteas which is worth upon improvement per ann. xiiijs xjd."

The total rentals of all the premises were put at £26.

The why and the wherefore of the survey is somewhat incomprehensible if the reversion of the School premises was at the time vested in the School Trustees.

A memorandum in the Wood MS. in the Bodleian, possibly about 1674, runs: "Mr. Fowler Mr. of the Free Schoole at Kettering in Coun. N'hap & Rector which is onlie titular, for he hath no tithes or Ch. dues."

The School is lost sight of again until 1681, on the 5th October in which year an Inquisition was taken at Northampton.¹ It was then stated that the Guardians or trustees for the School were all dead, and that Samuel Sherwin, clerk, was then the School master there and thereunto lawfully elected, licensed, and appointed.

The Decree made on the findings of the Commissioners adjudged that the Schoolhouse should continue to be used for the habitation of a Schoolmaster, for the teaching of scholars born or inhabiting in the said town in English and Latin, and that the said School house should be repaired by the Schoolmaster for the time being, and that Samuel Sherwin should continue Schoolmaster there during the will and pleasure of the Guardians and Overseers of the said School. And by the same decree Lord Rockingham and ten others were appointed Guardians and Overseers with powers to lease the School properties for 21 years and to appoint and dismiss the Schoolmaster. Provision was also made as to the appointment on the death of six of the trustees of new trustees, being Parishioners or Inhabitants of Kettering, or the Towns near adjoining, of the best sort and ability to make up the number to eleven.

Samuel Sherwin was instituted as Rector of Kettering on 10th December, 1680, and was succeeded by Francis Sawyer,

¹ Vide History pp 116, 117.

who was instituted on 11th July, 1684, and buried on 30th November, 1709.

Among the School Papers is a somewhat curious document, dated 18th November, 1705, by which Richard Jones is promised that on the death of Mr. Francis Sawyer, Rector and Schoolmaster, he shall receive the Headship of the School. The arrangement was, moreover, carried out, and a glimpse of the School during his mastership is obtained from a quaint advertisement,¹ which appeared in the Lincoln, Rutland, and Stamford Mercury of 31st October, 1717.

The Parish Registers of March, 1722, record the baptism of a daughter of the "Revd. Mr. Rich. Jones, Schoolmaster, and Sarah his wife," and later on in the same year Mr. Jones left Kettering, having been appointed Headmaster of Oundle School.

In the account given of Oundle Grammar School in the Victoria History of England, the writer, after stating that Mr. Jones was of Clare College, Cambridge, goes on: "All that we hear of his reign (at Oundle) is incessant wrangles over repairs and for a decent house for the Schoolmaster. On 26 May, 1761, his son informed the Company of Jones' death."

His successor, the Rev. Thomas Allen, another rector, was appointed on 24th October, 1722. He was instituted on 18th May, 1715, and was buried at Kettering on 3rd June, 1755. The burial of "Mr. North, Schoolmaster," is recorded in January, 1737, but he may have been an assistant merely, and Mr. Allen probably held the appointment up to the time of his death, as the Licence of John Warner, of Kettering, to the post of Schoolmaster is dated 6 October, 1755.

On 12 April, 1775, at a meeting at the George Inn, Sir John Palmer, Sir Wm. Dolben, Baronets, John Robinson, Esq., Mr. Roughton, and John Goodfellow, the major part of the surviving Guardians and Trustees of Kettering free school, let certain lands and tenements for the term of 21 years.

Mr. Warner continued to hold the post of schoolmaster till his death at the end of the eighteenth century, and on 18 January, 1800, John Warner, his son, who had been a sergeant in the army, was appointed temporarily to carry on the school.

In January, 1801, however, the Rev. James Hogg, of Holbeck,

¹ Quoted on p. 117 of History.

near Leeds, was appointed master to teach English, Latin, Writing, and Accounts. In addition to performing his scholastic duties, Mr. Hogg sometimes officiated at Kettering Church, and in 1803 was appointed curate of Geddington. In 1815, on the death of Mr. Knight, who was vicar of Geddington, as well as rector of Kettering, Mr. Hogg obtained the Geddington living, but, nevertheless, retained the mastership of the school, till his death in 1845.

During his long term of office three important events took place, one being the Kettering Inclosure, another the establishment of Elementary Schools in the Town, and the last the Report on the School in 1830 by the Charity Commission.¹

Mr. Hogg was on the 11th February, 1845, succeeded by the Rev. Richard Morton, who had been his curate at Geddington; and when that gentleman, not long after, was appointed curate at Burton Latimer, the number of boys attending the School had dwindled to two or three, who actually walked to Burton for their lessons!

The apathy of those interested in the School was, however, at length broken, and a new scheme, known as the scheme of 1854, was obtained from the Court of Chancery. Soon after it became operative, Mr. Morton, being presented to the Rothwell Vicarage, resigned his mastership, and was succeeded by the Rev. F. Tearle, M.A., of Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

Under Mr. Tearle the School quickly became popular, and in 1856 a new Master's house and school, the existing buildings, were erected.

In 1864 Mr. Tearle left Kettering for Leicester to take up an appointment there, and took a number of boarders with him.

The Rev. Thomas Widdowson, M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, was elected as Mr. Tearle's successor, and towards the end of 1864 the Schools Inquiry Commission found him with 52 boys, four of whom were boarders.

In 1874 the day scholars were 25 only, and there were no boarders.

On 21 February, 1888, a new scheme² was approved by the Queen in Council, and under it was created a new governing body called the Governors.

¹ History p. 118.

² History pp. 119, 120.

In 1890 the number of scholars was 61, but in 1896 21 only. In the last-named year Mr. Widdowson relinquished the mastership on the payment of a sum down and a pension of £100 a year, which was duly paid to the date of his death in October, 1903.

Mr. James Herbert Gill, B.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, was, on Mr. Widdowson's retirement, and pending further arrangements, appointed tentatively to the headship and still holds the post, the present number of scholars being about 45.

Mr. C. W. Stringer is the Clerk to the Governors.

The properties of the school have of late years greatly increased in value, and now produce an annual income of £958, and the dividends on a sum of £254 10s. 8d. Consols amount to £6 7s. The tuition fees for 1906 were £282 10s.

It is felt, however, that with such a history and such an endowment better scholastic facilities ought to be afforded, and for many years efforts, so far uncrowned with success, have been made to erect suitable buildings and to provide an adequate staff for a first-class Town Grammar School.



CHAPTER II.

CHARITIES.

FOR a full and revised account of the Kettering Charities the reader is referred to the writer's booklet recently published by the Northamptonshire Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd.

It should however be mentioned that:—

JANE CURCHIN, of Kettering, by will dated 4th December, 1897, made a bequest to the Trustees of Toller Chapel, under which £156 15s. was received. The income is applicable for distribution in cash, coal, flannel, or calico among the poor and needy connected with the chapel.

THOMAS DASH, of Kettering, Bookseller, by will dated 13th January, 1841, gave £100, the interest on which was to be applied in aid of Nunneley's Meat Charity, and £50, the interest on which was to aid the Sunday Schools of the Established Church. The reference on page 133 of the History should be corrected by inserting the words "Established Church" before "Sunday School."

MRS. SOPHIA SUSAN MCGROUTHER, of Streatham, widow, and a daughter of Mrs. Mary Hogg, by deed dated 29th May, 1872, placed a charity for the relief of aged widows and single women of the Church of England, which was established sometime before, on a proper basis and endowed it with £300.

GEORGE SATCHELL, of Kettering, who died 22nd April, 1835, gave the Deacons of Toller Chapel £20 in aid of Joseph Nunneley's Charity, so far as it related to the distribution of meat.

MATTHEW WILSON, of Kettering, about 1830 (but the date is uncertain), gave the last-named Deacons £600, the interest on £500 to be paid to the minister, and on £100 to the poor of the congregation.

JOSEPH WRIGHT, of Kettering, farmer, who died 6th July, 1831, gave to the Toller Deacons £50, the interest to be applied to the general purposes of the Chapel, and another £50, the interest on which was to go in aid of a Public Lecture by an Independent Minister, at Great Oakley.

PART VI.

NOTABILIA.

CHAPTER I.

THE LOCAL PRESS.

THE first Kettering Evening Daily Paper appeared on 4 October, 1897, under the title of "The Evening Telegraph," and still flourishes under the name of "Northamptonshire Evening Telegraph." Its price was, and is, one half-penny.

The Editor and founder of "The Kettering Guardian," Mr. Jas. William Steff, died on 17 September, 1890. The paper is still carried on but is now the property of the Northamptonshire Conservative and Unionist Press Company, Limited.

In reviewing the History, years since, the late Mr. John Taylor, of Northampton, called attention to the fact that the first number of "The Citizen"¹ was published on Thursday, February 15, 1844, and printed at Northampton by John Cooke Westbrook and Henry Isaac in the Drapery, and stated that the volumes for 1845 and 1846 (till June) were partly printed by Westbrook and Isaac and partly by Westbrook and Brown. The first number printed by Mr. Waddington at Kettering was No. 1 New Series published Wednesday, July 1, 1846.

Mr. Taylor rightly too said mention should have been made of Kettering's printers. Mr. Nathaniel Collis' name is perhaps the first to be mentioned. He issued a catalogue about 1770. Some forty years later, there is the name of Thomas Dash. His son, William Dash, succeeded. His stock of books consisted, said Mr. Taylor, "of the choicest bibliography, and was of larger extent than any between London and the great

¹ History, p. 137.

libraries in the North." The name of J. Downing occurs in 1809 and 1810, and J. G. Fuller's in 1813.

Mr. Joseph Toller's first book was a volume of his father's sermons, and appeared in 1833. He did not retire till 1880.



CHAPTER II.

KETTERING RAINFALL.

Year.			Total Rainfall, Inches.	Year,			Total Rainfall, Inches.
1891	...	...	31·82	Forward ... 209·46			
1892	...	...	22·27	1900	...	...	26·01
1893	...	...	19·26	1901	...	...	22·67
1894	...	...	24·18	1902	...	...	19·81
1895	...	...	20·53	1903	...	...	29·47
1896	...	...	25·38	1904	...	...	20·24
1897	...	...	24·44	1905	...	...	20·01
1898	...	...	19·44	1906	...	...	27·53
1899	...	...	22·14	1907	...	...	29·80
Forward ...			209·46	Total for 17 years			405·00

The total rainfall 1864 to 1890 given on p. 171 of the History is 709·86 inches, and the average therefore for the 44 years, 1864 to 1907, is 25·342 inches.¹

Mr. C. W. Lane, who has been good enough to supply some of the above figures (which are from the reports of more than one observer), points out that the Meteorological Authorities say that an average of less than 30 years is of no value. For curiosity's sake Mr. Lane tested the figures in three periods of 30 years with the following results:—

1864 to 1893, both inclusive	...	...	26·107 inches.
1870 to 1899,	„	...	25·769 „
1878 to 1907,	„	...	25·029 „

The average above given therefore of 25·342 seems fairly reliable.

Mr. G. J. Symons, F.R.S., in his evidence as to the Rainfall given at the Kettering Water Arbitration in December, 1898, said that the average rainfall for the district was 26½ inches.

¹ According to Mr. Symons the total figures for the years 1874, 1879, and 1885 of Mr. John Wallis' table on p. 171 of the History should be 21·86, 27·45, and 28·84, but these do not agree with Mr. Wallis' other figures.

So far as Kettering Observations were concerned, Mr. Symons gave the following figures :—

Station Road	1884-1892 average	24·30
Kettering Sewage Works ...	1893-1897 „	23·06
Headlands	1893-1897 „	22·76
Queensberry Road	1894-1897 „	24·28
Montague Street	1873-1892 „	26·95



PART VII.

THE WORTHIES.

ALDERMAN, FAMILY OF. By his will¹ dated 6 November, 1538, one Robert Alderman, of Kettering, after giving his wearing apparel to his brethren and his household stuff to his wife, makes his father, Richard Alderman, supervisor. This Richard seems to have been the founder of the family here. He made his will on 12 April, 1543. After making bequests to certain churches,² he gives William Alderman certain lands and houses including the house that he dwelt in "at the Church-style Lane." To Richard Alderman he gives other land and property. "To Edmund Alderman all the land that I bought of my lady Pargeter felde and towne with halfe-a-yarde that dyd belonge to my wolhouse that was brent. Also I give him my dovecote and my house in Rowell. All this I give to Edmonde Alderman for terme of his lyfe yf God send him witt to guyd it orells his younger brother to be his heire. I give all my leasses hooll of Misthorpe and of Healeyok, Thorpe Underwood³ and of Pepwell to William Alderman and to Richard Alderman. I give to Edmonde Alderman 60*li*." He gives each of his unmarried daughters £60; to Cristian, his daughter, £20; to Thomas Alderman and John his brother each of them 20 sheep; to Annes, his daughter, a girdle that was his wife's; to Elizabeth another silver harness girdle. His executors were William Alderman and Richard Alderman, and the will was proved on 23 November, 1543, in London.⁴

¹ Proved at Northampton.

² Vide p. 22 ante as to Kettering Church.

³ Vide Bridges, vol. ii. p. 67.

⁴ On 8th February, 1582, a Nicholas Alderman, of Kettering, made a nuncupative will, and commission to administer it was issued to Elizabeth Alderman, his relict, immediately after,

In 1586 a Richard Alderman was described as having lately been in the occupation of the Close called the Parke, at Kettering.

At a Manorial Court held 7 March, 1608, the death of Richard Alderman was presented, and his brother Edward being found to be his heir was admitted to a number of properties which together appear to have been of considerable value.

It is somewhat curious that after this incident all trace of the family, so far as Kettering is concerned, seems to have been swallowed up in oblivion.

HASELWOOD, FAMILY OF. This is an old Kettering name and the ancestors of the member of the family who settled here were probably the Haselwoods of Maidwell. At the Northampton Registry there are two Haselwood wills prior to 1652, namely, those of Mark and William.

Mark Haselwood, who is described as of Kettering, Husbandman, made his will on 6 January, 1556, and after giving legacies of £3 6s. 8d. each to his sons William and George, making bequests to his daughters Elizabeth and Jane, and bequeathing 6s. 8d. to Sr. Nicolas Haselwood (who on 5 January, 1558, occurs as Clerk at Arthingworth) leaves the residue of his estate to his wife Isabel. He died before April, 1557. Possibly he is the Marke Haselwood referred to on p. 24, ante.

William Haselwood, probably the son of Mark above-mentioned, made his will on 27 November, 1625. He refers to his seven children, but the will is in such bad condition that only the names of Henry, Joseph, Nathaniel and Elizabeth can now be deciphered. His wife Alis is mentioned, as is also a brother Mark.

He may be the William Haselwood referred to on p. 33 ante as occupying one of the Grammar School houses.

Reference is made in the account of the Sawyers to Capt. John Hazellwood.

LANE, FAMILY OF. The earliest member of this family with whom it is here proposed to deal is one John Lane, the third son of William Lane, of Orlingbury. He it was who took the site of the Manor, Hallfield, and other lands at Kettering from the Abbey of Peterborough by leases dated 20 October, 1528, and 10 December, 1534.

In his will dated 6 April, 1546, he calls himself "John

Lane, of Kettering, the elder." He desires to be buried "in the chapel of Sainte John within Kettering Church," and after other directions as to his soul's welfare, goes on "Item I will that one honest priste shall singe for me, my wife and all our good freendes three yeres nexte after my departure this world, his wages shall be foure marks sterling and meate and drinke every yere. And without meate and drinke then the priste to have viij markes every yere the priste to say his masse in St. Johns chappell in Kethering Church if I be buryed there." He then directs a "solempne dirige and masse to be done every yere," and provides as to the payment for it, among the items being *vi*d. for the high masse priste and *iv*d. for every other priste in the church. To "men clerks of the towne *ii*d.; children that can syng *i*d.; and the children that cannot syng halfpence." He gives "two whyte tunacles of white damaske and his best vestmente to the aulter of St. John in Kettering Church, his wife and his son to have the custodie of them so long as they dwell in Kettering." He gives all his lands to Elizabeth his wife (a daughter of one Walter Erneys) for life, and then to John Lane his son, with gifts over on failure of his son's issue. He gives legacies to his daughters Anne and Katherine and his son John; pieces of plate to his children Elizabeth Villars, Jane Dallison, John Lane, Anne Lane and Katherine Lane; and the residue to his wife. The will was proved at London on 4th July, 1546.

Among a list of persons contributing to the Crown in the time of Elizabeth is the name of Elizabeth Lane, of Kettering, *xli*.¹

At the Rectory Court, held 3 October, 1569, John Lane, evidently the son of the Testator just named, failed to render suit for a cottage which he owned. He was too charged at the same Court with hindering the tenants from baking and grinding within the lord's manor by driving them to bake and grind outside, to the great injury of the lord. The dispute between Edward Watson, the then lord, and John Lane was eventually settled by arbitration and the latter died in 1576 or 1577. By his will dated 7 April, 1576, he desired to be buried in the Chappell by his father and mother in Ketteringe Church. He gave to Margery Lane,² his wife, the profits of his lease of

¹ History, p. 14

² A daughter of Bassell Feilding, of Padox Newenham, Warw.

the farm within Kettering Manor and of his leases of the two parks and of all the Mills paying for the same to his son Basill¹ £20 yearly during her life and also the rents due to the Queens Majesty. Other provisions are made for his son and his (the Testator's) two daughters, Anne, the wife of Abraham Markham, and Goditha, who married John Hamilton. He appoints his wife executrix and there are references to his cousin, William Lane, son and heir apparent of Sir Robert Lane Knight. John Dammes is one of the witnesses.

It was this Testator who was apparently the John Lane who figured as a defendant in certain Star Chamber proceedings and was there described as of "Ketering bayliffe"²

At a Court held on 23rd May, 1578, Basil Lane was found to be his son and heir, and of full age.

In some Exchequer proceedings,³ 1592-93, Basil Lane is described as of Isham, gent, aged 40 or thereabouts. He states his father was Queen's bailiff at Kettering.

In another case, 1604-5, being aged 63, he (still described as of Isham) says his father, John Lane, was farmer of the said Scyte of the Manor and Demesne of Kettering.

Bassill Lane married Isabella, daughter of Edward Dorne, of Yardley Hastings, and had issue four daughters—Elizabeth, Margaret, Margery, wife of Nathaniel York, and May, wife of John Holmes, also one son John, who, in 1613, was described as his son and heir, and resided at Cosgrove, Northants.

The Family Arms were Quarterly: 1, Per pale Azure and Gules, three saltires Argent; 2, Gyronny of eight Or and Sable, on a canton Gules a covered cup of the first (Stretley); 3, Sable, three escallops Argent (Strickland); 4, Argent on a chevron Sable three guttés d'eau. The Crest was:—Out of a crescent Or two griffins' heads, the one Gules, the other Azure, a crescent for difference.

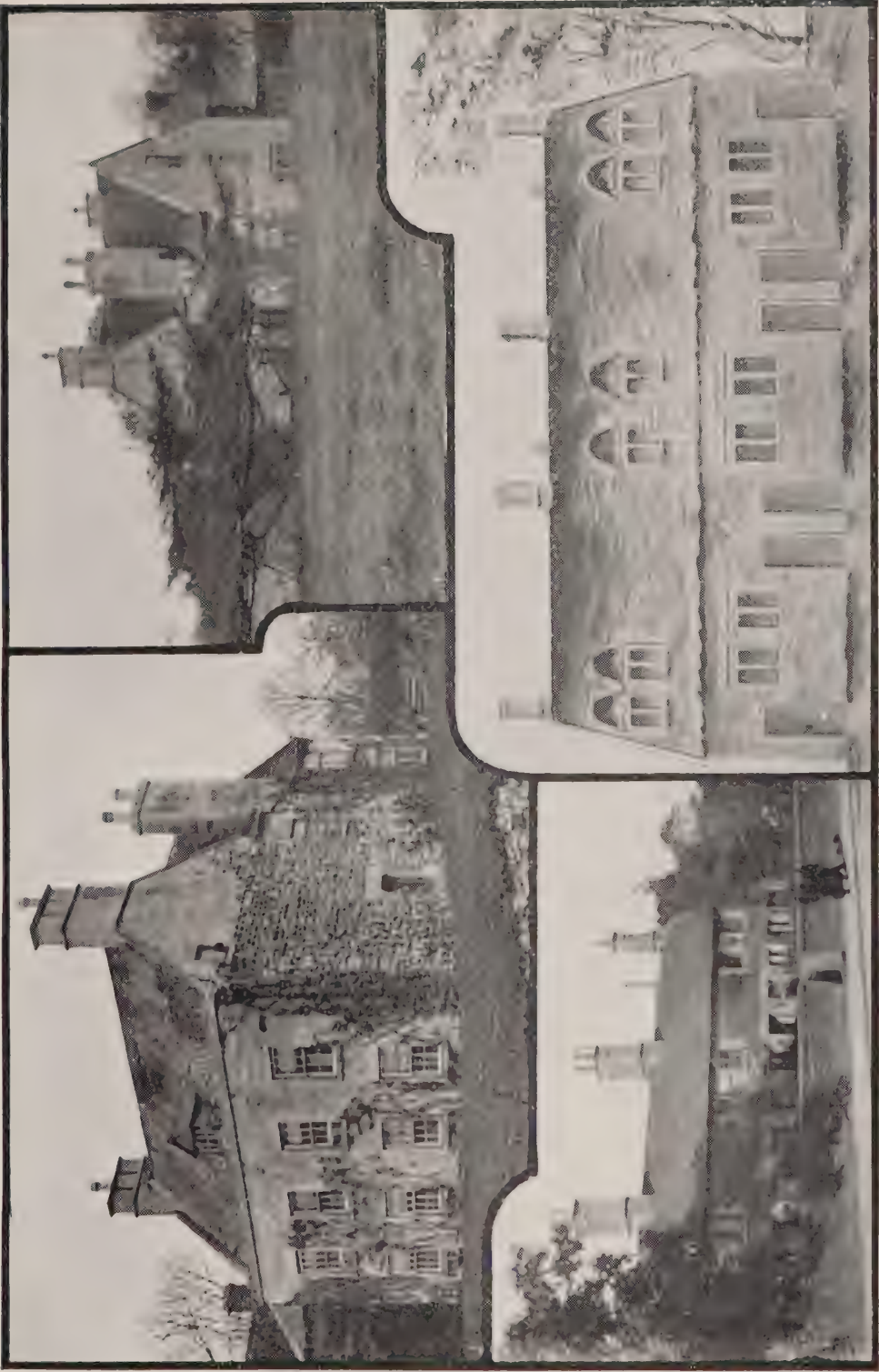
SAWYER FAMILY. An Edmund Sawyer, of Kettering, was the founder of the family which, for upwards of a century-and-a-half, was so much to the fore in the town's history. He married Alice Draycott,⁴ who was possibly the sister of

¹ Edward Lane, the eldest son, died without issue.

² History, p. 142 et seq.

³ History, p. 145.

⁴ Vide Visitation Northants, p. 133, 1618. Also as to other items Harl. MSS 1094, f. 216.



KETTERING MANOR HOUSE AND SAWYER'S HOSPITAL.

Anthony Draycott, the Rector of Kettering, from 1540 to 1560. He had two sons George and Henry, and a daughter Eleanor, who married Thomas Olney, of Tachbrook, Warwickshire. George Sawyer, the eldest son, married Alice Rawson, of Northampton, and made his will on the 26th of November, 1556. After therein bequeathing his "soule unto almightie god and o^r ladye saynt marie and unto all the hollye company of heaven" and his body to be buried in the "pyshe Church of St. Peter in Katheringe," he willed that Alis, his wife, have his lands, that he was possessed on, so long as she kept his name. But he went on "if it fortune that my said wyffe do marie and take another husband then accordynge to my surrender I will that then yt shall be given, as the costome is, into my fathers hands towards the bringe up of my son Henrye. If Henrye, my son, dep^t this world or he come to his lawfull age, then I will that it shall return to the name of Sawyer agayne." His wife Alice was appointed Executor, and the witnesses to the Will include Sir John Leys, Priest, and a Henrye Sawyer, who was probably the above-mentioned younger brother.

George Sawyer must have died soon after, as his Will was proved at Northampton, on 29th April, 1557. His son Henry survived him, lived at Sedgebrook, Lincolnshire, and left issue, a son Henry and two daughters, Alice and Jane. Henry married Frances, the daughter of Robert Filkins, of Kettering, and Jane, William Meddowes, of the same place, while Alice married one John Gibson.

Returning now to Henry, the second son of Edmund. His wife was Elizabeth, the daughter of William Drury, of Kettering, and he was probably the Henry Sawyer, gent., who was at the Manorial Court, held in 1562, fined 6d. for allowing his sheep to trespass. His name, too, was first on the lists of jurymen of the Rectorial Manor Court, from 1569 to 1578, when the records fail.¹ There is not much more information available as to him except that he kept the "Swan," the principal house in Kettering in those days, and must have been a man of much influence and the possessor of considerable property. He made his will on 2nd July, 1586, and after describing himself as a yeoman, and bequeathing his "soule into the hands of Almighty God, his Creator and Redeemer,"

1 "Glimpses of Kettering" by Chas. Wise, published in "Kettering Guardian."

gave to Elizabeth, his wife, all his moveables within his house called the Swanne except his plate and leases and obligations or bills of debt, and did only thereof "give to her but a dozen of silver spoones, a silver salte, and a white silver goblett." He, however, gave her "five of the best milche kine which he had at home" and "fiftye of the best coopes that go upon the Lincks" and "sixe of his best store shetes." He then gave to his daughter, Alice Pynder, his "greate silver and gilte goblett and stone pott, covered with silver and gilte"; to Elizabeth Pinder and Alice her sister each of them a "silver spoone tunne"; to Elizabeth Eyre a silver pott; and to each of his daughters Elizabeth, Margery, Avice, Katherine, and Mary, a hundred markes to be paid to each of them severally at the daies of their marriage. After further giving to his servant, old Alice, five shillings; to Alice Parsons five shillings; to Elizabeth Dawney £6 13s. 4d.; and a sum of ten shillings to be bestowed towards the repair of the Church, the Testator gave and bequeathed all the residue of his goods unbequeathed, moveable or unmoveable whatsoever unto Edmond his son whom he made his sole executor. The will concludes "I desire Mr. John Fosbroke and Edward Depup to be my overseers. And I give unto them tenne shillings apiece." The witnesses were "John Dames, clerk, the writer thereof, Henry Richards and William Cave."

The Will was proved at London in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 3rd of August, 1586, by Edmond Sawyer, the Executor thereof.

About 1590, Edmund Sawyer "dwelt in the parsonage house" and about two years later, when giving evidence in a case as to manorial rights,¹ he is described as "Edmund Sawyer, of Kettering, Yeoman, aged 26 or thereabouts." He is possibly the Edmund Sawyer who at the Manorial Court in 1586 was fined for playing globas (bowls).²

On 3rd May, 1596, Sir William Hatton, of Holdenby, Cousin and Heir of Sir Christopher Hatton, for 4,000 marks sold to Edmund Sawyer the capital messuage and site of the Manor at Kettering, the demesne lands, the warren, two closes of land, one then lately in the occupation of Edmund Bacon

¹ Exchequer Depositions by Commission, Michas. 34 and 35 Eliz., No. 37. Broughton v. Humphrey. History p. 146.

² Glimpses of Kettering.



THE COAT OF ARMS ON THE SAWYER HOSPITAL.

and John Lane, and the other called the Park, and all other the premises at Kettering, granted by Elizabeth to Sir Christopher Hatton in the 28th year of her reign. There was excepted from this grant the interest which William Tate, of Delapre and Francis Tate, of the Middle Temple,¹ had in the premises, but this interest was apparently bought out by Edmund Sawyer at the time of the purchase, and on 17th December, 1602, to strengthen his title it is assumed, "Edmund Sawyer, of Kettering, Gentleman," on the payment of £180 obtained a grant from the Crown of the lands above-named, which he was to hold by the service of a hundredth part of Knight's fee. The residue of the Manor of Kettering, of the value of £76 7s. 10½d., is expressly excepted from the grant.²

In October, 1603, in the evidence given with respect to a dispute as to the title to the Swan Inn, Elizabeth Saweir, Edmund's mother, who is described as of Kettering, Widow, and tenant to defendant in the action, aged three score and eighteen years, deposed that she "knew the towne all the tyme of her remembrance for that she was borne and had ever dwelt there," and that she had been tenant of, and dwelt in, the Swan for the space of 56 years. Further that she "had bene a Customary Tenant of the Manor of Ketteringe of an estate by copie which Henery Saweir her husband late deceased did surrender to her use."³

On 8th May, 1604, Edmund Sawyer, whose star was much in the ascendant, acquired a coat of arms and crest by patent from Will Camden Clar. The arms were: Lozengy or and azure on a pale gules three escallops of the first; while the crest was a parrot's head erased vert, beaked of the first above a mural coronet gules.⁴

On 26th January, 1611, he purchased the three Kettering Mills (wind, water, and horse) subject to an annual payment of £10 in respect of the same to the Crown.⁵

The position of the Sawyers continued to increase in importance as the years went by, and there were numerous

¹ Duke of Buccleuch's MSS.

² Pat. Rolls 45 Eliz., part 1, m. 4. History p. 15.

³ Exchequer Depositions by Commission, Mich. 1, Jas. I., No. 3. Talbot and ors. v. Judkins. History p. 147.

⁴ Harl. MS. 1647, fo. 6 b.

⁵ Duke of Buccleuch's MSS.

actions and disputes as to their rights on the Links, their rights as to the public bakehouse, and their rights as to grinding at the mills.

At length, however, Edmund Sawyer's career ended, and he died at the age of 69, on 19th September, 1630. He married Anne, the daughter of Lawrence Goodman, of Blaston, Leicestershire, gent., and had issue by her fifteen children, as the small brass in the Sawyer aisle of Kettering Church records. Above the inscription on this brass are the figures of Edmund Sawyer and his wife in kneeling postures and the Sawyer coat of arms.

At an inquisition post-mortem held at Oundle on the 29th March, 1631,¹ it was found that Edmund Sawyer died seised of a mansion house in Kettering in which he lived at the time of his death; of divers lands in the open fields to the same mansion house belonging; of Hall Meadow, the Park, the Hall-field; of the Warren called the Lynkes; of Cransley Holme, Broughton Holme, Rams Holme and Flaggie Holme; of the Netherfield; and of the Mills in Kettering; and that Ann Sawyer survived her husband. It is not indeed until 9th February, 1646, that the Parish Registers record the burial of "Ana wife of Edmund Sawyer."

John Sawyer was Edmund Sawyer's eldest son and heir, and at the time of the inquisition was stated to be of the age of 30 years and over. He was probably considerably over, as on 7th October, 1612, a settlement was made in relation to his marriage with Sarah, the eldest daughter of Sir Francis Harvey, of Cotton End, one of the Judges of the Common Pleas, such marriage having at that date been "then before had and solemnized."² The deed mentioned the "dowry" she brought with her, and goes on to make various provisions including the entailing of the estate.

Besides John, the following are the names of other of Edmund's children: Francis,³ Edward,⁴ Margaret, Anne, Elizabeth, Henry, Edmund, George, Thomas and Maria.

Both John Sawyer and his brother Francis became Parliamentarians and Captains of their forces, and it was while on

¹ Inq. post mortem, Ch. Vol. 464, No. 43.

² The marriage took place at Great Houghton on 1 Sept., 1612.

³ Vide p. 17 of History, for an account of a Ship Money incident in which Francis Sawyer took an active part.

⁴ Vide p. 18 of History, as to a Commission to Edward Sawyer with regard to game trespass.

active service that John met his death at Wellingborough. The whole incident is fully narrated in "*Mercurius Rusticus*," published in 1646.

It appears that the trouble began with the seizure and carrying off prisoner to Northampton of Master Gray, of Wellingborough the Clerk of the Peace for the County of Northampton, and his money and plate on the night of the 26th December, 1642. The mission was accomplished by Captain Francis Sawyer and a hundred dragoons. The tumult caused by this forcible action was such that by noon next day, Tuesday, Colonel Norwich commanding in chief, Sergeant Major Mole, Captain John Sawyer, Captain Francis Sawyer and other officers with some 500 or as others say, 1,000 horses and dragooners, came to Wellingborough. "Being come thither," says the account, "they divided themselves into severall Troopes to make good severall passages into the Towne, thereby to keep out the Countrey that were comming to their ayde. Captain John Sawyer with 80 or 100 Dragooners enters the Town at that side which leads to Welby; and riding in front of his men, marched direct towards M. Neile, of Woollaston, and some few with him who stood to oppose him; Sawyer discharges at M. Neile, and when he missed with his bullet he would be sure to hit with his tongue, shooting out arrowes, even bitter wordes, calling him popish rascal; but what reward shall be given unto thee O thou false tongue? He stayed not long without it, for the words were no sooner spoken, and (to second his words) a charge given to his Souldiers to give fire, but he received what he would have given, his deaths wound by a shot in the head and necke by Goose-shot, which made him fall on his horse necke, which shot was seconded by a Countryman, who with a Club beat him off his horse into the dirt; being thus beaten down, the women to revenge their Husbands Quarrell fasten on him; but M. Oliver Gray (Nephew to M. Gray before mentioned) and M. Woollaston rescued out of their hands, who otherwise had immediately dyed the death of Sisera by the hands of women. Reprieved thus for some few houres they carry him to one Grays house an Alehouse-keeper, whose wife was Captain Sawyer's aunt, where they administered what they could, but in vaine, for after two and twenty hours Languishment he died. As soon as Captain Sawyer was fallen, his Souldiers instantly ran away, only his son, unwilling to leave his Father, followed him to the hazard of his life by many

wounds which he received Captaine Francis Sawyer much intraged for his Brother, and comming near the place where is brother was wounded, seeing Master Flint, the Curate of Harrowden stand there, not anyway ingaged in the Resistance he barbarously struck him with his Poleaxe and he dyed instantly. Being Masters of the Towne at three of the Clock in the afternoone, they beginne to plunder, and continue the spoyle untill the next day-light fayled them, untill Wednesday night."

Another account looked at from the other side states that Captain John Sawyer "A most godly and eminent man to the Puritan cause, and a J.P. for the County who came to persuade the people to be quiet " was shot while entering the town.

He was buried at All Saints, Northampton, the entry in the burial resisters on 30 Dec , 1642, being "John Sayer Armiger."

Knowing doubtless the risks he was likely to run, John Sawyer made his Will on 2nd August, 1642. After a somewhat curious preamble the original will is imperfect, but a copy of it is fortunately preserved with the Duke of Buccleuch's MSS. Francis Harvey, of Weston Favell, esquire, John Templer, of Ashley, gent, John Holhead, of Sempringham, Linc., and John Brown, of Billingborow, Linc., gent., were appointed Trustees. Lands were devised to his son Edmond, (whom he prayed God to convert,) for three score years, and then to his heirs male with remainders over, and there was a legacy of £300 to his son John, and a gift of a cottage in Dickers Lane then in his (testator's) wife's name; and legacies of £300 to his sons, Francis, Samuel, Joseph,¹ Benjamin, Nathaniel, and Harvey. There were also the following legacies to his daughters, namely Mary £450, Sarah £350, Ann (for whose comfortable position he blessed God) £5 for a ring, and Elizabeth, Rebecca, Christian, and Martha, £300 each. This will was proved at Northampton and the original is in the Registry there now.

Edmund Sawyer succeeded to the family estates and in about October 1645, when he was apparently about thirty years of age, he married his first wife Rachel West. The marriage articles are dated 10th October, 1645, and are made between John West, of Westham, Essex, gent., of the one part, and Edmund Sawyer, of Kettering, esquire, and John Sawyer,

¹ Vide p. 21 of History for a reference to Joseph Sawyer,

second brother of the said Edmund Sawyer, of the other part. The lands settled were all those in the parish of Kettering or in the County of Northampton lately belonging to John Sawyer deceased. The settlement was (subject to the jointure of Sarah Sawyer, John Sawyer's widow) for Edmund Sawyer for life, and then to his heirs male.¹

The baptism of "John the sonne of Edmund Sawyer, Esquire," is recorded on 29th January, 1649, and of "Marie" on 21st December, 1652. Then there are the following entries: "Nathaniell sonne of Mr. Edmund Sawyer and Rachell his wife borne the 23 March 1654" and "Rachell daughter of Ed^d and Rachell born 4 July, 1656."

Rachel Sawyer only survived the birth of her last daughter a few days, and was buried on 17 July, 1656. It seems probable that all the children of this marriage, with the exception of Rachel, whose will is later referred to, died young. At any rate they cannot be traced.

For his second wife Edmund Sawyer married Joyce James, the Settlement in this instance is dated 31 August, 1657, and is made between Edmund Sawyer of the one part and Thomas Scott and Joyce, his wife, of the other part, and recites the intended marriage between Edmund Sawyer and Joyce James, the daughter of Joyce Scott by a former husband. The lands settled were the Netherfields and Hall Meadow, in the parish of Kettering, and they were limited to the use of Edmund Sawyer and Joyce James during their joint lives and the life of the longer liver of them with remainder to their heirs male.²

An entry which doubtless refers to the baptism of a child of this marriage, although the father's christian name is not clear, appears in the baptisms of August, 1659.

Edmund Sawyer, like his predecessors, valiantly upheld his rights with regard to the mills, and there was also a great dispute as to his liability for levies made on him towards the repair of the Church, which was settled by an Award dated 28 March, 1665.

By this document it is provided that so long as Edmund Sawyer and his family occupy seats in the Church, where they have been used to sit all the time of Edmund Sawyer, and the latter part of the time of John Sawyer, his father, and so long

¹ Duke of Buccleuch's MSS.

² Duke of Buccleuch's MSS.

as other parishioners who want room are permitted by Edmond Sawyer to sit in the aisle or chancell anciently belonging to his house, the Churchwardens shall repair the same, "except only ye pavement of ye said lower chancel, which shall be maintained and repaired by ye said Edmund Sawyer because it is ye buriall place of his family." ¹

About the same time from the records of the "Mill case" it appeared that Sarah Sawyer, his mother, was still living, she being a plaintiff.

The will of Edmund Sawyer was made on the 16 September, 1680. By it he gave to his son Henry a close of pasture land called Hither Park, adjoining Hall Lane, in Kettering, with the Close called Pond Yard, containing 20 acres, the meadow called Kideholme, containing 4 acres, lands in the fields containing one half-yard land purchased from Sam Pinde, and fee farm rents to the amount of £10 issuing out of the Kettering Mills with the proviso that if his son Edmund "who God preserve" should at any time thereafter pay unto Henry £600 then the lands and rents should be to the use of his son Edmund and his heirs for ever, but that until such sum was paid Henry was to enjoy the rents thereof to his own proper use and benefit. He also gives his daughter Joyce £400 and refers to the will of his "dear daughter Rachell Sayer." Legacies of £5 each to his brother, Alexander Ekins, of Orlingbury, and John Maydwell, senior, of Kettering, and the appointment of his wife, Joyce, executrix, conclude the will.

Edmund Sawyer was buried on the 23rd November, 1680, and his will was proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on the 13th December following.

The will of Rachel Sawyer, of Kettering, spinster, was only made on the 21st August, 1680, and she was buried on the 29th. Among several legacies is this charitable bequest, "I give and bequeath to the poore of Kettering £100, the same to be putt out and the interest thereof to be employed towards the binding out of apprentices." ²

The will was proved by her father on the 1st November, 1680, in the Prerogative Court, just before his death.

The curious reference to Edmund Sawyer in his father's will is explained by the fact that he was a sailor and merchant, and

¹ Kettering Parish Book.

² See R. Sawyer's Charity, p. 130 History.

on the 12th December, 1687, he made his will on board the "Asia" in Standar. By that document he disposes of his lands and effects as follows:—"Tis my desire that after my decease my brother, Henry Sayer, enjoy whatever was left me by my father, Edmund Sayer, Esq., for me at Kettering in Northamptonshire hee paying all debts accrewing thereby I further as a present give him £300 sterling to be paid out of my estate To my sister Joyce Sayer £600 to bee paid in some nature towards building an Hospitall or house for the poor in Kettering I give £100 and £100 more to bee distributed amongst the poor To my friend Mr. William Harvey of Aleppo if alive I give £100 To Captain John Hazellwood Commander of the Asia I leave and bequeath my part of the Asia be it worth more or less To my honoured Mother Dame Joyce Sayer I leave £700 with what more may be found to belong to me hereby constituting her my sole Executrix . . . Mr. Thomas Hutton I leave my Assigne in Aleppo to make home to my Executrix what concernes I have in Aleppo."

He died before 24th January following, when there are documents certifying the correctness of a copy will of Mr. Edmund Sayer, Merchant of Aleppo, lately deceased, and the will was proved in the Prerogative Court, on 22nd June, 1688, by Dame Joyce Sayer, the mother of deceased.

As the result of a bequest to found a hospital, the building at the top of the Station Road was erected, and the will must be regarded as the document creating the foundation.

In the conditions of sale of the Sawyer estate in 1723, referred to later, there is the following reference to the hospital:—"There is likewise an Hospital built upon the Waste for six old Women which is kept in Repair at the charge of the said Estate and the Proprietor of the said Estate has the power to place therein whom he pleases."¹

Henry Sawyer married, in 1688, Mary, a daughter of William Gomeldon, an Alderman of the City of London, and she died on 4th March, 1699, leaving an only son, Edmund, who was baptized on 6th August, 1689. The marriage settlement was dated August, 1688, and included a farm in Bedfordshire, the Hither Park and Hallpond Yard at Kettering, and a rent of £16 issuing out of the Kettering Mills.² For his second wife

¹ Duke of Buccleuch's MSS.

² Ibid.

Henry Sawyer, about 1714, married Catherine Bogan, widow.¹

A Francis Sawyer was Rector of Kettering from 1684 to 1709, but it is uncertain what his ancestry was. By his will dated 8th June, 1708, and proved at Northampton on 10th October, 1710, he refers to his wife Martha, to his sons Ambrose, Francis, and Samuel, and to his daughters Elizabeth, Anne, Judith, Martha and Susanna, the two last named being executrixes.

The connection of the family with Kettering was practically severed on 3rd September, 1720, when the estate was sold by Henry Sawyer and Edmund Sawyer (his only son) to Francis Hawes, who was connected with the South Sea Company, and took possession of and occupied the Manor House. The sale included, besides the Manor House, the demesne lands containing about 700 acres, the water-mills, wind-mills, and malt-mills in Kettering, Hall Meadow, the two parks severed from Hall Field, Hall Field, the Warren called the Links, Flaggy Holme, Cransley Holme, Broughton Holme, Pond Closes, Netherfields, Capron's Holme, Flaxwell's Close and Hall Meadow, Barn Close, and the two Warren Closes, and all other closes in Kettering.

In view of this transaction it would appear as if the surmise that the Sawyers were involved in the Bubble was correct.

In 1721, the estates of the Directors of the Company, valued at £2,014,000, were confiscated for the benefit of the sufferers, and the Kettering estate was put up for sale at the South Sea House on 4th December, 1723. The house was thus described: "The Mansion House built with Free Stone containing Six Rooms on a Floor, with Bakehouse, Washhouse and other offices, Stables, Coachhouse, Granary and Barns, with Gardens containing by computation Six Acres and two roods of land or thereabouts in good order and enclosed with a Brick Wall coped with stone, in the occupation of Francis Hawes, Esquire, computed at the yearly value of £20." The premises were purchased by John Duke of Montagu, to whom it was bargained and sold on 30th July, 1724, by the Trustees appointed to wind up the South Sea Company, and Edmund Sawyer, of Lincolns Inn, Esquire (Henry Sawyer being then dead). There was a confirmatory assurance to the Duke on 9th May, 1727.²

In 1731, too, Edmund Sawyer surrendered a tenement in

¹ Duke of Buccleuch's MSS.

² Ibid.

Northall and certain land to John Booth, in trust for John Duke of Montagu. This appears to be the last reference on the Court Rolls to a family which, for so many years, was so intimately associated with Kettering.

TOWNSEND, DAVID. All towns have their celebrities, and old David Townsend was one of Kettering's. Born at Grafton Underwood on 6th October, 1807, or as he himself puts it :—

The nineteenth century had begun,
And seven years almost outrun,
Beneath October's golden ray,
Upon the sixth, that was the day,
And early on that autumn morn,
When I a little babe was born.
It was at Grafton Underwood,
Not far from where a cottage stood,
A lodge upon the Rectory farm.

.

My father was a bailiff there,
The farm was subject to his care.

.

Our little cottage, which was thatched,
To large farm buildings was attached,
And it contained, if you must know,
A pantry and one room below.
In family we numbered five,
And yet we always did contrive
To live and wash, and bake, and brew,
In that one room the whole year through.

He was by trade a blacksmith, and carried on business at Geddington and Little Oakley. Eventually he came to Kettering, and ever after signing the pledge at Mr. Owen Robinson's house, about 1860, he was a staunch temperance advocate. He composed and printed several poems and essays, and while at Geddington commenced in January, 1842, a Manuscript Magazine, entitled "Sparks from Vulcan's Forge, or Odds, Ends, and Particulars; a Manuscript Periodical by David Townsend, a Blacksmith, of Geddington." It was continued for seven months only. For years he used to locate himself in prominent parts of Kettering, where he attracted attention by playing a violin and singing melodies of his own

composition, and during intervals selling his little books. He died on 5th February, 1897, in his 90th year.

No more he'll vend his simple rhymes,
No more we'll hear him sing
His songs of temperance, and the time
When George the Third was King.

And though in fancy we shall see
His figure, tall and thin,
With breeches buttoned at the knee—
A bandage round his chin :

His well-worn hat and coat of grey,
A stocking on each wrist ;
Now that he's gone Death's trackless way,
Old David will be missed.

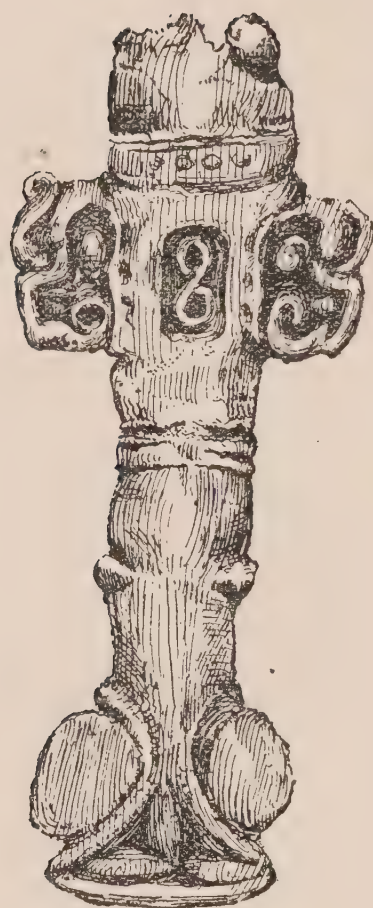
These lines, by Mr. J. Hawthorn, and published, with others, at the time of David's death, in the *Kettering Leader*, will recall his personal appearance. The booklets he published include:—"A Lecture on the Ancient Geography of Babylonia," delivered before the Mutual Instruction Society at Kettering, 14th June, 1838 ; "Jubilee Melodies," 1887 ; "The City of the Living God," 1888 ; "Kettering : a Flourishing Town," 1889 ; and "Our Grand Old Church" ; also a poem on "The Early Life of the Author."

WALLIS, JOHN, was born at Olney, Bucks, on 7th December, 1815. He was the second child but eldest son of Robert Wallis, who then lived in that town, but who afterwards moved to Rothwell Lodge Farm. He attended for a time Kettering Grammar School but completed his education at the Friends School Ackworth. On leaving school he was apprenticed to Mr. William Ellis, a wholesale grocer at Mansfield, but eventually settled at Kettering about 1845, and started the manufacture of chicory in a factory in Richards Leys. A little later he also commenced the manufacture of mustard, utilising for that purpose the old Water Mill as well as the Richards Leys premises. In time he and his brother, Mr. Thomas Wallis, who joined him about 1851, added a spice grinding department to their business, and also started the flour mills at Burton Latimer. About 1873 he relinquished his interest in the various businesses and soon after became connected with the Cransley Ironworks as managing director. He was too a director of the Kettering Waterworks Company, a concern in which he took

the greatest interest. The public affairs and the general welfare of the town he always had deeply at heart. He was for many years treasurer of the British Schools, was the first and only Kettering Waywarden, served as Guardian for six or seven years between 1850 and 1860, and took part in obtaining the formation of the Burial Board in 1859, being its chairman for some years. He was too a member of the first Kettering Local Board and continued to serve on that body (being chairman from 1880 to 1890) till 1891. During his eighteen years term of office, he pursued a policy of his own, altogether irrespective of party, and inaugurated many great public improvements. He took part in all the severe political and other conflicts which were such a feature in the strenuous history of the town of days gone by. He was, as Mr. H. G. Gotch puts it,¹ "curt, positive, often right, but always decided, an invaluable ally." Seeing the deep interest which he always evinced in local affairs, it is not surprising that he amassed a valuable collection of local manuscripts, prints, pamphlets, and other documents. As acknowledged in the dedication of this History, it was his antiquarian bent which led to the idea of its being written. His death took place on 24th September, 1892. He was originally a member of the Society of Friends, but after his marriage on 3rd February, 1852, to Miss Mary Stockburn, second daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Stockburn, he became associated with and to the time of his death continued a supporter of the Independents. His widow survived him several years, and died 21st October, 1906.

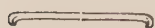
1 Preface to History of British School by A. Lenton.





LATE ANGLO SAXON BROOCH.

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